

KILLINGS- 1938

Tipster's Body Found In Sight Of Raided Still

Hubert Taylor, Alleged Moonshiner, Accused Of Murdering Negro

Elmore County authorities last night said they had preferred a charge of first degree murder against Hubert Taylor, 22, of the Redland Community, following discovery at 2 p.m., of the body of Fayette Reeves, negro informer, in a ravine several hundred yards from the spot where Federal agents Monday seized a distillery alleged to have been owned by Taylor.

Shortly after being bound over for Grand Jury action Monday, on a charge of possessing an illegal distillery, officers quoted Taylor as admitting that he had "fired at" the negro last Wednesday. Reeves, also of the Redland Community, had been missing for several days and was the object of a search since Saturday noon when Redland residents informed officers they had heard pistol shots Wednesday night and the cries of a man who pleaded, "don't kill me!"

U. S. Marshal Walter Bragg Smith, who took Taylor to the scene yesterday, said the negro's body had been hit "two or three" times by pistol bullets.

Finder Notified Officers

The body was found by Jim Mulder, Elmore County farmer, who immediately notified E. W. Myrick, chief of the U. S. Alcohol Tax Unit here, Sheriff W. A. Austin, of Elmore County, and Marshal Smith.

The officers said it appeared that Reeves had trudged through the countryside for several hundred yards after being hit and that, apparently, he had attempted to build a fire to warm himself just before he fell into the ravine and died. They expressed the opinion Reeves died either Wednesday night or early Thursday.

An additional statement was attributed to Taylor yesterday that he had fired at the negro "because he threatened to kill me." The officers said that, in their opinion, the shooting resulted from "Taylor's belief that Reeves had squealed to the law," about the distillery.

Officers Ambushed

About the same time that the negro's body was discovered, three sheriff's deputies and Agent A. F. Hutchinson, of the U. S. Alcohol Tax Unit, narrowly escaped death or injury about three or four miles away when unknown persons took "pot shots" at

them from a distant hillside.

The officers had just raided a 1,500-gallon distillery, from which five orcase and let the defendant go free. The six negroes had fled, and were "shoot- ing up" the vats when bullets began whistling past their ears and two or three struck up dirt near their feet. got 15 years, the jury fixing the punishment. Unable to see the sniper, or snipers, J. C. Prickett pleaded guilty the officers took to cover. Then, when the firing had ceased, they seized one years in prison. The same sentence, negro, Wilson Adams, on a charge of was imposed on Monk Williams for operating an illicit distillery. Adams, a similar offense. Willie Frank Ro-

however, was not believed to have fired the shot and entered a plea of second degree murder and took a 12-year term. Deputies Herbert Hornsby, Robert Melton and N. B. Kennedy, who accompanied Agent Hutchinson to the distillery, said they supposed it would have looked quite funny to an outsider "seeing all of us trying to hide behind a pine tree not large enough to shelter a single man."

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ALABAMA

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Troy Negro To Be Tried For 7 Murders

Special Venire Of 50 Men Is Drawn For Thursday Trial

TROY, ALA., Nov. 29.—(Special)—Sam Underwood, negro, will go on trial Thursday on first degree murder charges, growing out of the alleged slaying of Jeff Braddy, white man, who worked at a Brundidge lumber mill, three negroes, the hammer slaying of his wife, another negro woman in Brundidge and also of his daughter, who died a week later at a Troy hospital of a fractured skull, supposed to have been caused when he hit her on the head with a hammer. His other children recovered from hammer wounds. The murders were about a month ago. He is said to have pleaded "not guilty by reason of insanity."

Judge W. L. Parks is presiding over the Circuit Court and Solicitor Ewell C. Orme, assisted by his brother, Harry Orme, is representing the State.

A special venire of 50 citizens has been drawn for Thursday. From this list, and the regular jurors serving for the entire week, a jury of 12 to pass on Underwood's case will be drawn.

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stance was, adding additional circumstances in the fatal shooting of H. J. Nash, 34, and Mrs. Gloria Lyles, 29, in a rural area near here.

Tubbs, being held at Jefferson County jail, was accused of the slayings after officers found an automatic pistol under the house occupied by a relative.

State Toxicologist H. W. Nixon yesterday "positive identification" of the bullet which killed Nash as having been fired from the "suspected" gun found beneath Tubbs' home.

Sheriff Hollis said Tubbs, in a deathbed statement, recounted how a masked man attacked her and left her beside a road after firing a fatal bullet that penetrated her spinal column. Nash, bridge construction foreman from Snellville, Ga., died 24 hours later, after telling police his assailant shot him in the abdomen and drove away with the woman.

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NEGRO KILLED BY STATE PATROLMAN

(From Yesterday's Final Edition)

Shot during what officers said was a struggle with an Alabama Highway patrolman, a negro who had given his name as Willie Collins, of Maylene, Ala., in Shelby County, pronounced dead on arrival Sunday night at Hillman Hospital.

Patrolmen said he was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated, and that he attacked Highway Patrolman W. B. Cley from the rear as the latter was taking the keys from the car which Collins was reported to have been driving. Sergt. N. W. Kimbrough, head of the Highway Patrol office here, was in Shelby County investigating the incident.

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The State toxicologist said he had "positively identified" the pistol as the murder weapon and had reported to Circuit Solicitor Joseph H. James "positive identification" with the pistol of a .32 caliber bullet taken from the body of one of the victims.

Discovery of the gun, described as a ".32 automatic," was made by State Highway Patrolman M. E. Jones, one of a special detail of patrol officers cooperating with authorities at Greensboro in investigation of the double-killing.

Officer Jones reported he had gone to the house where Grady Pitts, 27-year-old negro, then under arrest as a suspect in connection with the murders lived with his mother to question the woman. She finally admitted, he said, that her son owned a pistol, and then, admitting further she knew where it was, led him to the side of the house and indicated the location under the structure where the officer found it, and she and several negro neighbors readily identified it as belonging to Pitts.

Jones said the gun had been recently fired, and that an empty .32 caliber cartridge case found in the car in which both victims were shot, exactly fitted the weapon.

Following the finding of the gun, Sheriff Calvin Hollis filed a formal charge of murder against Pitts, whom he had arrested the previous morning and taken to the Jefferson County jail in Birmingham for safekeeping.

The man and woman killed were Mrs. Gloria Lyles, 29, Hale County matron, and H. J. Nash, 35, of Snellville, Ga., bridge construction foreman. Both were found about 9 p.m. Sunday, beside separate, little-used country roads, approximately 10 miles apart. Mrs. Lyles died Monday evening; Nash the following night.

In a deathbed statement Mrs. Lyles was quoted by officers as having said she and Nash were shot in the latter's car in which they were riding, by a negro man; that Nash was shot first and his body dumped out of the car by the roadside, and that the negro man then drove the car for some distance, criminally assaulted her, forced her to get back in the machine and drove to the spot where he shot her and then rolled her down an embankment. Nash's car was found standing in the road near where she was discovered.

Information was received from Birmingham yesterday that although J. W. McClung, special investigator for the State Highway Patrol, had spent some time questioning Pitts in his cell at the Jefferson County jail, the negro insisted he had no part in the killings and knew nothing about them. Toxicologist Nixon, Sheriff Hollis and Highway Patrol Officer Meadows, who was formerly sheriff of Lowndes County, planned last night, it was learned, to go to Birmingham today and question Pitts further.

Pistol Found Beneath Home Of Double Murder Suspect

Finding yesterday by State Highway Patrol Officer M. E. Jones, what is believed by authorities to be the weapon used in the roadside killing Sunday night near Greensboro of a white man and woman, was followed by the filing of a formal charge of murder against Grady Pitts alias J. W. McClung, 21-year-old negro, arrested Monday morning by Sheriff Calvin Hollis, of Hale County, and later removed to the Jefferson County jail in Birmingham, for safekeeping. Announcement that Pitts, held up to date as a suspect, had been charged with murder in connection with the slaying of the couple, was made at Greensboro by Sheriff Hollis last night.

The sheriff was quoted as saying the woman victim, Mrs. Gloria Lyles, 29, in a deathbed statement, said she had been assaulted. She had previously been quoted as stating also that her assailant and that of her companion H. J. Nash, bridge construction foreman of Snellville, Ga., was a negro. Both were shot, it was said, with a .32 calibre pistol. Nash was quoted as saying he did not know whether the person who shot them was white or black, but that whoever it was, walked up to the car and began shooting. Mr. Lyles died Monday night; Nash 24 hours later.

What is believed to be the murder weapon, is a .32 calibre automatic pistol, found by Officer Jones under the house on the outskirts of Greensboro where Pitts lived with his mother, according to Capt. Potter Smith of the State Highway Patrol. Capt. Smith said details of the finding of the pistol were reported to him in a telephone conversation yesterday afternoon with Sergt. R. G. Grubbs who, with three other Patrol officers including Officer Jones, have been cooperating with local authorities in their investigation of the double murder.

He said Sergt. Grubbs told him the officers went to the house yesterday in the course of their investigation, and that Jones, questioning the negro's mother closely, finally obtained an admission from her that she owned a pistol and that she knew where it was.

When Jones asked her to get it for him, he said, the woman led him outside and around the house, and stooped down to reach underneath the building for the weapon. As she did so, he stated, Jones saw the pistol, stopped her, and picked it up himself, after first covering it carefully with a piece of paper so that any finger-prints that might be left on it would not be destroyed or damaged.

Sergt. Grubbs told him, Capt. Smith said, that examination of the weapon showed it had been recently fired. He told him also, he said, that an empty cartridge shell found in the car in which the man and woman were shot and mortally wounded, fitted

the pistol exactly. Pitts's mother readily identified the pistol as belonging to her son, it was stated, and other negroes residing in the neighborhood, said it was Pitts's gun. Augmenting the detail of Patrol Officers already aiding local officers, Chief Walter K. McAdory announced he had also assigned to the case, J. W. McClung, special investigator for the department, who has figured prominently in the clearing up of a number of murder mysteries in the State in recent years. Mr. McClung was to report for duty to Sheriff Hollis and Circuit Solicitor Joseph H. James.

The Authorities were awaiting last night a report from State Toxicologist H. W. Nixon who was making tests of bloodstains said to have been on clothing found in Pitts's house, when officers searched it.

NO DEAD HIGHWAY SHOOTING

Age-Herald Negro Held In Slaying

Of Man And Woman

Near Greensboro

12-7-38 DENIAL MADE HERE

IN ROBBERY DEATHS

Alabama Matron And

Georgia Man Shot

On Roadside

GREENSBORO, Ala., Dec. 6.—Two persons were dead here Tuesday night and a Negro was being held in the Jefferson County Jail in connection with a shooting which occurred near here Sunday night.

Mrs. Gola Zulia Lyles, 29, died Monday night of wounds from a shot which lodged in her spine. Horace J. Nash, 32, a bridge construction foreman of Snellville, Ga., died about 5:15 p.m. Tuesday in a local hospital. Hospital attaches said he had been shot three times.

Deputy Sheriff W. O. Sims quoted Mrs. Lyles as saying in a deathbed statement a Negro shot Nash and then shot her, dumping Nash out on the Bates Mill Road. Deputy Sheriff Ed Ryan quoted Nash

as saying he didn't know whether the person who shot them was black or white, and that he claimed the person "just walked up and shot them—or words to that effect."

Victims Quoted

According to Sheriff J. Calvin Hollis, who took the Negro, Grady Tubbs, 21, to the Jefferson County Jail for safekeeping, the following information was given him by Mrs. Lyles and Nash:

Sunday night, they were parked in an automobile in front of Bethel Church, on the Moore Mill Highway, about three miles north of Greensboro. About 8 p.m. a man with a white handkerchief over his face opened the door of the car, drew a gun on its occupants and robbed Nash of \$12 and Mrs. Lyles of \$10.

The robber then shot Nash three times and hauled Mrs. Lyles from the car into the church, where he attacked her, the sheriff said he was told. Forcing her to return to the car, the man drove several miles farther down the road, shot the woman once and pushed her body from the car, the victims said.

A neighboring farmer, Lee Edward Kynard, found Mrs. Lyles in the road about 11 p.m., summoned aid and had her taken to a hospital, where she died Monday night. Nash was found lying in the road where Mrs. Lyles directed searchers, Sheriff Hollis said.

Mrs. Lyles is survived by her husband, Lois Lyles; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Colonel Crawford, of Hale County, and two children.

Nash is survived by his wife, four small children and his mother, all of Springville, Ga. The body will be sent to Springville where funeral arrangements will be announced.

Deputy Ryan confirmed the arrest of Tubbs, but said Tuesday night that no formal charges had been placed against him.

Crimes Denied

Tubbs denied any connection with the crimes when questioned by an Age-Herald-News reporter at the County Jail Tuesday.

"They got me for something I don't know anything about," he said. "An attempted murder of something Capt. Hollis (the sheriff) told me it was."

The Negro said he spent part of Sunday night at the house of his wife's sister, where his wife was visiting. He said he "hung around" the Southern Railway Station at Greensboro about half an hour and then walked down the railroad tracks in the direction of his home.

On his way, the Negro said, he passed by the Jerusalem (Negro) Church, which is "about a mile over the hills" from his home. He did not see any white persons, either in a car or afoot, during his trip, he said. According to the Negro the "trouble" took place near a "white folks" church. That, he said, was about two and a half miles from his home.

The Negro said he formerly was employed in a saw mill, but recently had worked at odd jobs for a family at Greensboro.

"Ain't never had a gun," he said. "They searched my house and didn't

Killings-1938

Convicted Negro Slain By Father Of Abused Child

Prisoner, Just Sentenced By Jury To 99 Years,
Dies In Corridor With Four Bullet Wounds;
Parent Is Facing Murder Charge

What punishment will the courts impose upon H. E. Colburn? That was the question confronting authorities today as the wheels of justice began to turn.

Colburn, 31-year-old mechanic, shot and killed John Lewis Smith, 22-year-old Negro houseboy who abused his seven-year-old daughter.

A jury in Circuit Judge J. Russell McElroy's court had just returned a verdict sentencing the Negro to 99 years in the penitentiary when the young father of the hall at the Criminal Court pumped four pistol bullets into clerk's office.

Smith's body in the hallway outside the courtroom. **Gives Up Gun**
"I saw Colburn draw a pistol from his coat and I yelled 'Look out' Mack Brown was walking beside the little Negro and McFarland was just behind him.

A Capital Crime
Attaches of the court who heard the testimony of the little girl, were expecting a death sentence. The charge was carnal knowledge of a girl under 12 years of age punishable by death in the electric chair or a prison sentence of 10 years or more.

The father had been waiting in the corridor all day.

There had been rumors that the Negro's life was in danger. But Colburn said he didn't want to go into the courtroom. Officers searched him anyway, just to be sure he didn't have a pistol. Then they kept an eye on him as the trial progressed. The courtroom doors were locked to all but attorneys.

Couldn't Find Him
When the jury returned after four hours deliberation, officers were sent to look for Colburn, but couldn't find him. Barely more than five minutes after the verdict was read, the prisoner left the sixth floor courtroom in custody of Homer Brown and Detective J. W. McFarland.

They were taking him to the doorway leading to the elevator, which runs to the County Jail on the eighth floor.

Just as they approached the doorway," said Detective R. J. Granger, who was an eyewitness, "Colburn came around the corner

Before Trouble Touched Them

To What End?



Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Colburn and daughter, in a picture taken four years ago.

It is unfortunate indeed, that precautions taken yesterday by the court and the law were insufficient to protect both the prisoner slain in the Courthouse corridor and the slayer against the rashness of his own judgment.

The law had taken its course. A jury after due deliberation, had sentenced the prisoner to serve the rest of his life at hard labor in payment for his crime.

No possible good can come from the killing which followed. On the other hand, it means added trouble for the Colburn family, strikes another blow at orderly society and reverts back to the law of the jungle.

One never knows what he might do under similar circumstances, but the fact is inescapable that for the good of all, the law in every case must be kept inviolate.

Louisville, Miss. Journal
May 13, 1938

ALABAMIANS FINALLY WAKING UP

H. E. Colburn, father of a 7 years old girl, shot to death a 20 years old negro prisoner in the Birmingham court house Wednesday. The negro had been found guilty of having carnal knowledge of the girl, and sentenced to 99 years in prison. He was also charged with rape. The affair occurred last December, and we suppose had hung in Court since then. Now the anti-lynch lovers can order their New York lawyer.

Dave Cantey Guilty; Must Die In Chair

Jury Reaches Verdict In
Hour And 35 Minutes
After Three-Day Trial

Defendant Is Calm

Death Or Acquittal Asked
By Seibels For Negro
Held As Nurses Slayer

Dave Cantey, 23-year-old negro, was convicted in Circuit Court last night at 8:10 of the murder of Miss Eunice Ward, Montgomery school nurse, and sentenced to death in the electric chair at Kilby Prison.

The trial, which had been on the case since Thursday morning, reached a unanimous verdict in one hour and 35 minutes. He probably will be formally sentenced some time Monday and a date set for the execution.

Counsel for the defendant indicated immediately after hearing the verdict read by the clerk they would take an appeal to the Supreme Court. A definite decision on the matter is expected to be reached by the time sentence is passed by Judge Eugene W. Carter.

Cantey was brought from the County Jail to hear the verdict and when the jury was in the box, Bailiff S. A. Carter asked him to stand. The courtroom was almost full, most of the crowd being negroes. Cantey displayed no emotions when the verdict was read. He sat down quietly for a moment and then deputies placed handcuffs on him and led him out of the room. He passed by his mother, who sat back in the audience, but did not look at her. A number of his friends and kin had also waited for the verdict.

Miss Ward was fatally beaten the afternoon of March 19 in a thicket off the Vaughan Road near the Masonic Home as she and her sister, Miss Lillian Ward, who was also beaten and slashed with a knife, picked wild lilies.

Cantey endeavored to establish an alibi and also contended that the confession he signed was distorted and made under duress. The State introduced several witnesses who said they saw the negro near the scene of the crime on the day it occurred, and Miss Lillian Ward testified that to the best of her judgment he was the slayer.

The Jury

The jury that convicted Cantey included: W. I. Bowman, foreman; Oliver P. Cooper, William H. Foreman, James H. Harrod, Baldwin W. Harvey

Thomas D. Johnston, Stuart W. Patton, Jr., Rush Stallings, George E. Sud-dith, Culver R. Broach, Walter L. Pitts and James T. Stovall, Jr.

In closing his argument to the jury, Solicitor Seibels asked for the death penalty: "Don't come out of that room with a life verdict, for this defendant should be electrocuted or acquitted." Arguments by defense counsel and the solicitor consumed approximately four hours and 30 minutes, with Attys. Alex Birch, and Ed Wadsworth taking up almost three hours of the time. Mr. Seibels was the only prosecutor for the State.

Seibels A Witness

In a most unusual procedure, the solicitor was called to the stand at the morning session as a witness for Cantey. The negro's counsel asked Mr. Seibels if the purported confession which Cantey signed at Kilby Prison was read to the Grand Jury that indicted him. His answer was that he thought the confession was available to the grand jurors, but was "a little uncertain" about its being read to them. Judge Carter then asked Mr. Seibels a question to which counsel for the defendant objected. The question related to the solicitor's conversation he had with Cantey at police headquarters in the interval the negro claims to have been beaten and otherwise mistreated. Cantey had testified that although he told Mr. Seibels no one had mistreated him, the solicitor was interrupted and left the room before giving him an opportunity to relate to him the details of the whippings and other punishment he told the jury he received at the hands of the police and one of the State Highway Patrol motor scouts.

On the stand as Cantey's surprise witness, Mr. Seibels, replying to the question by the court, denied that Chief of Detective Paul Rapport or anyone interrupted his remarks to the defendant. He insisted that Cantey completed the conversation. The negro had stated that just before he started to tell the solicitor of the abuse, Mr. Rapport walked up and interrupted the conversation. Judge Carter's charge to the jury closed the three-day trial about 3:30 p.m. The entire afternoon and some 30 minutes of the morning session was taken up with arguments by the counsel and the 20-minute charge by Judge Carter. Defense counsel began speaking a few minutes after 2 p.m., and closed about 5 o'clock. Both lawyers pleaded to the jury not to send Cantey to the electric chair, arguing that the State's evidence did not justify such a verdict. They insinuated some of the witnesses for the prosecution were expected to share in the \$1,000 reward which had been offered for the arrest and conviction of the slayer of Miss Ward.

Solicitor Seibels, replying to the opposing counsel's remarks to the jury concerning the confession which Cantey signed, said if he suspected a confession had been obtained by violence, he would decline to use it in the prosecution of the defendant. "Cantey is guilty beyond any reasonable doubt in the world," shouted the solicitor. He said the State of Alabama wanted only a fair verdict, and that he wanted justice for "the blackest negro to be as complete as that

given to a bank president or any other prominent citizen."

Digressing from the case at hand, Solicitor Seibels said the reason the United States leads the world in crime was the "public doesn't give a damn." He suggested that the way to stop so much crime in this nation was for jurors to do their duty when locked up in the jury room.

Canty Cross-examined

Canty was cross-examined for about an hour as the Saturday morning session got under way. He had completed the direct examination Friday afternoon.

Dave admitted writing a letter to the negro woman fortune teller, whom he visited shortly before his departure for Mobile. The letter, signed "Rudy Ray," requested the soothsayer to get in touch with his mother, Beulah Cobbs, at Madison Park, and have her send him \$10 to buy some shoes and pay his board. He denied he told Chief Rapport, who arrested him, he had been in Mobile three weeks. But on rebuttal, Rapport declared the defendant did make the statement.

Canty reiterated that the officers started beating him before he left Mobile the night of the arrest. He said the first lash of the whip or hose was applied while he was at police headquarters there, waiting for Chief Rapport to get a cup of coffee. Before the whipping, there was no effort made by the officers to get him to confess to the killing of Miss Ward, he defendant said. In fact, he said the officers did not even tell him why they were beating him.

When Solicitor Seibels asked Canty if the scars on his legs which he had exhibited to the jury on the previous day had not been there "a long time," defense counsel objected and were sustained by the court.

Sticks To Story

Canty stuck to the story he told the jury Friday on direct examination that he went to Mobile to get away from the "money lenders" and other bill collectors. He also denied having been in the vicinity of the Masonic Home before the crime since his return from Chattanooga. But State rebuttal witnesses testified they saw him in the neighborhood. A woman, Mrs. H. C. Willard, dairy operator, said she saw Canty on Friday afternoon prior to the homicide, walking along the Vaughan Road, and Willie Harris, negro, told the jury he met him on the same road about a quarter of a mile from the Masonic Home the afternoon of the crime. He said it was about 4:45 p.m. when he saw Canty walking up the road "popping his knife in his hand." Harris also told the jury he saw Canty early that morning on South Hall Street.

In an effort to tear down the defendant's testimony about being beaten into signing the confession, Solicitor Seibels called several rebuttal witnesses yesterday morning. They included Col. W. P. Screws, J. E. Lind-sey, assistant warden at Kilby Prison.

Birmingham, Ala. News
June 10, 1938

The No-Bill

In The Colburn Case

Many persons probably will approve the action of the Jefferson County Grand Jury in returning a no-bill in the Colburn case. It is probably a safe assertion, in fact, that majority public sentiment approves the Grand Jury's decision not to bring an indictment against Mr. Colburn.

It is very easy to understand that feeling. Mr. Colburn shot and killed a Negro who had been convicted of having carnal knowledge of Colburn's 7-year-old daughter. The Negro's crime was an atrocious one. Naturally, Mr. Colburn was extremely wrought up over it. The Negro's case came to trial, and he was convicted and sentenced to 99 years in the penitentiary. As he was being led from the courtroom, Colburn, who had secreted himself in a telephone booth, stepped out and shot him. One would suppose that Mr. Colburn had been willing for the law to take its course in this case, expecting or hoping for a death sentence. When the jury which tried the case imposed a sentence of 99 years instead of the death penalty, Colburn took matters in his own hands. And he did what many persons do not blame him for doing.

As we have said, it is easy to understand the feeling of those who approve the Grand Jury's no-bill. That feeling is probably shared by many who deplored Colburn's act. The News cannot believe that many persons would have wanted Colburn to do what he did. But it is understandable that, once the act was committed, many such persons would not have wanted to see him punished for it.

While The News can understand that attitude, it cannot share it or condone it. This paper is fully aware that its own view probably runs counter to general public sentiment in this case. Nevertheless, The News feels that it should point out to those who condone this killing that they are treading on dangerous ground. As long as we live under a system of laws, we should all uphold the law, and wish to see it upheld. Our system of laws is for the general good, and any lapse from legal processes is a blow at that system.

It involves no sympathy for the Negro criminal in this case to say that the law should have been allowed to take its course. Now, The News imagines that if there had been an indictment, a petit jury would have

acquitted Colburn, public sentiment being what it is. But at least the case would have conformed to the forms of the law if it had been carried to a petit jury and the evidence and testimony presented. If, then, a petit jury had acquitted Colburn, feeling that it was a case of justifiable homicide on the ground of an "unwritten law," at least the law would have taken its formal course. The News thinks it is extremely unfortunate for the law that this case was not allowed to take its course.

"A SALUTE TO HALE COUNTY"

Under the foregoing caption The Selma Times-Journal prints a stout and timely editorial, which reads as follows:

If Hale county law enforcement officer had been less efficient in handling the recent double murder case which shocked the entire state, it is not at all unlikely that solution of the mystery could not have been achieved without some evidence of high feeling adding to the deplorable tragedy.

Residents of Hale have been subjected to severe strain during recent months by a series of incendiary outrages, and only the determination of level-headed leaders has saved the county from the ignominy of hasty action which would have brought unpleasant notoriety for the section.

This level-headedness reached a splendid climax when Sheriff Calvin Hollis and his aides conducted their investigation of the double murder in such a manner that the Negro who later confessed to the shooting was tracked down and spirited away from the scene before news of the crime became generally known.

By following this procedure instead of seizing upon sensational aspects of the case to thrust himself into the limelight, Sheriff Hollis precluded any chance of high feeling arising anew with its attendant unpleasantness.

Had events developed less favorably, residents of Hale county would have been subjected to scathing censure, and The Times-Journal feels that the manner in which the case was handled deserves as much praise as there would have been criticism under different circumstances. It is, therefore, a pleasure to commend in highest degree all those who had a part in handling the case.

This newspaper believes that Hale countians will find deep satisfaction in the conviction that justice will be done in this tragedy without summary action, and that they will gain a great deal of lasting gratification from the knowledge that they have struck a mighty blow against advocates of Federal interference in the administration of law in the South.

The Advertiser is informed that the Sheriff of Hale had the cooperation of numerous Negroes in bringing to bay this killer-member of their race. It has often happened before that honorable, proud Negro citizens have cooperated with officers in bringing felons to justice. Certainly it has happened in Montgomery.

Negroes realize that the lawless members of their group bring discredit upon the whole group and the more sensitive among them are ever ready to assist officers in running down culprits that disgrace them. This is

admirable and commendable of Negroes.

The Advertiser is glad that The Times-Journal has singled out Sheriff Calvin Hollis and his aides for special praise. They deserve the salute. But for their sense and skill we might have had another lynching in Alabama. But for the cooperation of members of the Negro race Sheriff Hollis and his colleagues might have been defeated in their high purpose, and so let us also give praise to responsible black people.

Whenever black people cooperate with the police and sheriffs they deserve special commendation because Negroes have reason to be distrustful of most officers. They are abused and insulted more than white people are. They have every reason but one to side with the Negro criminal, the exception being a matter of conscience and racial pride and responsibility. Many officers are crude and cheap in their relations to Negroes because they lack the sense to discriminate between the decent and the bad. In consequence the decent Negroes shrink from them and often hesitate to cooperate with them in law enforcement.

Officers are missing a good bet in not treating self-respecting Negroes with the courtesy that is due every human being that behaves himself and discharges his ordinary social responsibilities. The masses of the Negro people behave themselves. They are humiliated by the minority in their group that is irresponsible and vicious.

It is about time for our officers, all of whom in Alabama are white recognized the fact that law-abiding Negroes are in the majority and that only the lawless minority invite ill-treatment.

The Advertiser is well aware that not uncommonly white officers of the law deport themselves with less dignity and character than the majority of Negroes do.

Birmingham Homicides

Birmingham's murder record has improved somewhat through the years. This town no longer is a "Murder Capital," a dubious distinction it won for itself during a period in which our murder ratio stood extraordinarily high among civilized cities of the world. But Birmingham cannot yet be proud of its murder record.

During the first 11 months of this year there were 67 homicides in Birmingham. Of this number 10 involved white persons, the other 57 involved Negroes.

Here is an opportunity for leaders,

both white and Negro, to help reduce crime. It is an opportunity for the police, the courts, the public prosecutors and, most of all, jurors, to help remedy a condition that needs attention.

The blame for the high murder rate among Negroes must be shared by the white population. All crime involving Negroes, including petty crimes, should receive more careful attention. But the greatest room for improvement is law enforcement in assault and battery cases involving Negroes.

Judge Abernethy and Judge Martin who hear most of the minor criminal cases involving only Negroes, have made an attempt during the last few years to discourage violence among Negroes. White jurors should cooperate on this front.

When white policemen, white judges and white jurors in Birmingham become less tolerant of assault cases involving only Negroes, then the homicide rate among Negroes certainly will show further decline.

STABBINGS FATAL TO TWO NEGROES

(From Yesterday's Final Edition)
Two homicides were added to the city's 1938 record Wednesday with the death of two Negroes at Hillman hospital.

Coleman Sanders, Negro, of 3222 First Avenue, North, died early Wednesday of stab wounds suffered Friday morning, police said, after an argument with another Negro over 25 cents.

French Britten, Negro, of 113 North Thirty-fourth Street, died at the Hillman a short time after being admitted with stab wounds in the neck. City Detectives W. E. DeGroat and W. B. Helton were investigating.

Two Orrville Hunters Shot; Negroes Held**Three Suspects Being Held At Selma Jail For Questioning**

SELMA, ALA., Dec. 29—(Special)—Officers were still baffled over the mysterious shooting Wednesday night of Levoy Wilkerson, 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Wilkerson, of Orrville, and his companion, Robert Edwards, farmer of the Orrville

community, who were shot as they were returning home from a duck hunt. 12-30-38

Three Negroes are being held in the Dallas County jail for questioning, it was learned Thursday night by jail-keeper H. N. Casey. One of the suspects was taken into custody Thursday morning, the other two were taken later in the day. Their names were withheld since no charges have yet been preferred, Mr. Casey said.

The Wilkerson youth, the more seriously injured of the two victims, underwent an operation for the removal of a bullet from his neck Thursday afternoon at the Vaughan Memorial Hospital here. The man, shot in the muscles of his right arm, did not require hospital treatment. Both were said to have been shot with a pistol when they were riding in a car toward Orrville from the duck hunt. The shooting took place near the Stoddard plantation near Orrville. Young Wilkerson will recover, according to Dr. William DeRamus at the Vaughan Hospital, "unless complications set in."

Mr. Edwards was given first aid treatment immediately after the shooting in the office of Dr. Ed Day at Orrville. His younger companion was brought to Selma for the operation early Thursday.

Sheriff's deputies, called to the scene Wednesday night, were continuing investigations Thursday.

Tuskegee Worker Slain By Nephew

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 15—The normally quiet community of Greenwood, a village just outside of Tuskegee, was shaken from its calm here Saturday afternoon, when Robert Diaz, employed in the printing office of Tuskegee Institute, was shot and killed by his wife's nephew, Robert Booker, 21, following a family altercation. Booker is being held by Tuskegee police.

Diaz, a native of British Guiana, quarreled with his wife over the use of blankets by one of his four children born of a previous marriage in South America. Words between the children and stepmother led to difficulty between the couple.

NEGRO CONFESSION REPORTED BY BURNS

Anniston Ala Star
December 11, 1938

Sheriff Says Attack Admitted After Shooting

James William Howard, Birmingham Negro, who Sheriff Sam Burns of Talladega County said admitted he struck J. W. Wilson in the head here last week and took his pistol, was arrested in Talladega Saturday after having been admitted to a hospital there for treatment for gunshot wounds.

Howard was reported to have been shot by another Negro, Milton Simmons, at the latter's home six miles north of Talladega Friday. Simmons' wife and two sons were charged with conspiracy to assault with intent to murder and Simmons was charged with assault with intent to murder.

Mr. Wilson's pistol was recovered Saturday afternoon by officers who were led to its hiding place by members of the Simmons family. Mr. Wilson is a special agent of the Southern Railway and was attacked in the railroad yards last week. Howard was shot in the side, arm and face with a shotgun, it was stated. His wounds were considered of a minor nature and it was said that he soon would be transferred here to face charges of assaulting the special agent.

Child Also Shot

Booker, the wife's nephew, intervened, and in the heated quarrel which followed, shot Diaz to death. One of the Diaz children was also wounded by a stray bullet.

Greenwood, scene of the shooting, is largely inhabited by members of the institute faculty. Diaz, who failed in the restaurant business some years ago and lost a job at the government hospital, was employed by school officials in an effort to help him support his large family.

Residents Say They Heard "Please Don't Kill Me" Plea

White Alabaman Jailed By Federal Authorities On
Murder Charge After Farmer's Body Is
Found In Ravine.

Mystery Killer Takes 2 Lives In Hale County

WETUMPKA, Ala., Dec. 8.—(Special)—Hubert M. Taylor, young white man, who resides in the Redland community of this county, is being held without bail in the county jail here on a first degree murder charge for the shooting to death of Fayette Reeves, farmer, whose body was found Tuesday in a ravine several hundred yards from a moonshine liquor still alleged to have been owned by Taylor, that has been raided by Federal agents on the preceding day.

The search for and finding of the body of Reeves followed an admission said to have been obtained by the Federal agents from Taylor after his arrest on a charge of operating an illicit distilling apparatus, that on Wednesday of the week before he had shot at Reeves whom he thought, it is believed, had "informed" on him to authorities as to the crude liquor making plant and its location.

This admission, it was believed, definitely linked Taylor with the disappearance of Reeves, also of the Redlands section, missing from his home since the preceding Wednesday night, when residents of the section told county officers they had heard the pleading outcries of a man shouting "please don't kill me," followed by a series of shots. Reeves' body when found, after a search that had continued since last Saturday, was pierced by a number of pistol bullet wounds.

An investigation disclosed evidence that after being shot, Reeves had alternately walked and dragged himself for some distance before stopping to build a small fire to protect himself against the unseasonably cold weather prevailing; then attempting to regain his feet to seek help for the wounds from which he was suffering, had fallen into the ravine where he died. Examining physicians gave it as their opinion that he had probably lingered throughout the night and until the following morning.

Negro Confesses Slaying Of Man

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Dec. 11.—(AP)—Grady Tubbs, alias Pitts, 21-year-old Hale County negro, has confessed to the fatal shooting last Sunday night of Horace J. Nash, 34, near Greensboro, Ala., according to an announcement by Sheriff Fred H. McDuff.

McDuff said the negro, who requested the confession be heard, denied, however, he shot Mrs. Gola Zulia Lyles, 29, or criminally assaulted her.

Asked how the woman was fatally wounded, Tubbs was quoted as saying: "It must have been a glancing bullet."

McDuff said Tubbs, answering questions by Asst. Solicitor Robert R. McAdory, Jr., declared he shot Nash after the construction foreman cursed the negro and threw a bottle at him as he approached the automobile in which Nash and Mrs. Lyles were seated.

Tubbs had been brought to the Jefferson County jail "for safekeeping" after his arrest early last week in Hale County. He was accused of the slayings after officers found an automatic pistol under the house where he lived with a relative.

State Toxicologist H. W. Nixon, Friday reporter "positive identification" of the bullet which killed Nash as having been fired from the gun found at Tubbs' home.

Sheriff Calvin Hollis of Hale County said Mrs. Lyles, in a death bed statement, said a masked man attacked her and left her beside a lonely road after shooting her. Nash, bridge construction foreman from Snellgrove, Ga., died the next day after telling police he was shot in the abdomen by an assailant who then drove away with Mrs. Lyles.

Man, Woman, Mortally Wounded, Are Found Lying 10 Miles Apart

Capt. Smith with receipt here last night from Greensboro of news of the death of H. J. Nash, 34-year-old Georgia construction company employee the second victim of a mysterious roadside shooting near Greensboro in which he and Mrs. Gloria Lyles, 29, rural matron, were fatally wounded, details were made public by Capt. Potter Smith of the State Highway Patrol on his return from an investigation at the direction of Gov. Graves of a report of threatened violence in Hale County as a result of the tragedy, of the arrest and final commitment to jail in Birmingham of a negro man, Grady Pitts alias Grady Tubbs, held in connection with the double slaying.

Pitts alias Tubbs was taken into custody Monday morning by Sheriff J. C. Hollis and his deputies, according to Capt. Smith, who made a report to the Governor immediately after his arrival here last evening. The suspect was promptly removed by the sheriff to the county jail at Tuscaloosa, Capt. Smith said, and early yesterday was taken by Sheriff Hollis from there to Birmingham and lodged in the Jefferson County Jail. Reports up to the time Capt. Smith reached here were that the negro was being brought to Kilby Prison, and there was considerable speculation as to why, after the passage of hours, he had not arrived there.

The Patrol Captain who was accompanied on his trip of investigation by Sergt. T. J. Carlisle and Patrolman Ellis and clerks, said he found no indication of any disorder, and that when he left Greensboro all was quiet. As a precautionary measure, however, he said, he left Sergt. R. G. Grubbs and Patrolmen Peake, Tatum and Jones on duty there to supplement the sheriff's forces in case other suspects were picked up by the county officers. Capt. Smith confirmed information from the Hale County seat that despite the arrest of the negro Pitts,

authorities there had clearly indicated their investigation of the murder of Nash and Mrs. Lyles was far from complete. He said it was his information State Toxicologist H. W. Nixon was aiding in the inquiry and was in Birmingham last night to question the negro suspect.

The shooting that took the lives of Nash whose home was in Snellville, Ga., and Mrs. Lyles who resided in the Mount Hermon Community, occurred Sunday night. They were found about 9 p.m. some 10 miles apart, pierced by pistol slug wounds beside separate, little-used roads. Deputy Sheriff W. O. Simms who said the woman had been criminally assaulted, quoted her as saying in a deathbed statement that a negro shot Nash and then her, dumping Nash out of the car in which they had been riding, near Bethel Church on the Bates Mill Road. She was found at the foot of an embankment a short distance from the Greensboro-Tuscaloosa Highway. The car, a Chevrolet coach, was standing on the road near where Mrs. Lyles was located. According to the deputy, all their money had been taken from both victims.

Mrs. Lyles died at a Greensboro hospital at about 9 p.m. Monday. Nash who was shot through the liver and had another wound in his right shoulder, died yesterday at 6:30 p.m. in the same hospital. Deputy Sheriff Ed Ryan quoted Nash as stating he did not know whether the person who shot him and his companion was black or white, and that their assailant "just walked up and shot us." Nash is survived by his wife and four children; Mrs. Lyles by her husband and two children.

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NEGRO CHARGED WITH SLAYINGS

Special Session Sought
For Grand Jury To

Probe Deaths

GREENSBORO, Ala., Dec. 17.—With a charge of murder placed against one Negro, and another Negro held as a material witness, Sheriff J. Calvin Hollis said Wednesday a special session of the Grand Jury would be sought to investigate the fatal shooting Sunday night of Horace J. Nash, 32, and Mrs. Gloria Lyles, 29, near here Sunday night.

Sheriff Hollis said he had sworn out a warrant charging Grady Pitts, alias Tubbs, 21, Negro, with murder in the slayings and that another Negro, Tom Mauldin, identified as a brother-in-law of Pitts, was being held as a material witness. The sheriff indicated Mauldin had no direct connection with the crime.

Officers said they had found a pistol identified as belonging to Pitts.

Pitts remained in Jefferson County Jail, Birmingham, for safekeeping, while Mauldin was being held in Hale County Jail here, the sheriff said. Pitts denied any connection with the slaying.

Mrs. Lyles died Monday night at a local hospital after having been found on a road near here about 11 p.m. Sunday. Nash died about 5:15 p.m. Tuesday.

Sheriff Hollis said the victims gave the following account of the shooting:

Sunday night they were in a parked automobile on a little-used road off the Greensboro-Tuscaloosa Highway. A man, masked with a white handkerchief, opened the door of the automobile and at the point

of a pistol robbed Nash of \$12 and Mrs. Lyles of \$10. He then shot Nash three times, pushing the victim out of the car. The assailant then forced Mrs. Lyles to accompany him into a nearby church, attacking her. He drove several miles with her in the car and after shooting her dumped her out of the car. She was shot in the head, the bullet ranging down and lodging in her spine.

After Mrs. Lyles was found she directed neighbors to the spot where Nash had been shot.

The victims' statements were made after they had been brought to the hospital.

State Toxicologist H. W. Nixon entered the investigation Wednesday, examining bloody clothing officers said was found in Pitts' residence.

Nash was a bridge construction foreman. His home was in Georgia. Surviving are his wife, four children and his mother.

Mrs. Lyles is survived by her husband, Lois Lyles; two children and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Colonel Crawford, of Hale County.

GOV. GRAVES COMMUTES SENTENCE OF ORR

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 15 — (Special) — Declaring that after careful study of the record in the case of Jim Orr, convicted in Morgan county of the murder of a white filling-station operator, and condemned to death, he is convinced there is a reasonable doubt of Orr's guilt, Gov. Bibb Graves, on the eve of the scheduled execution of the death sentence, this week formally commuted the death sentence to life imprisonment. Clemency had previously been unanimously recommended by the State Board of Pardon for Orr who, in the shadow of the electric chair, steadfastly stuck to his original statement that he was innocent and was not even in the vicinity of the crime when it occurred.

TRIED TWICE

His conclusion that there existed a reasonable doubt of the guilt of Orr was based on two outstanding features of the evidence before him, the Governor revealed. Orr he recalled, had been tried twice for the slaying of the filling-station operator, the first judgment of conviction having been reversed by the high courts.

At the original trial, he then pointed out, a woman witness call-

ed to the stand by the State had testified she could not identify the Negro man she said she saw running away from the scene of the killing immediately afterward, but at the second trial this same witness testified she could recognize the man and identified Orr as the fleeing figure she claimed she saw.

IGNORED BY HOUNDS

The evidence further revealed, the Governor cited, that when officers with bloodhounds employed in efforts to trail and capture the slayer, went to Orr's house where he was quietly eating his supper, and entered the room with the animals, none of the dogs paid the slightest attention to Orr until a deputy sheriff grasped the head of one of them with both hands and pushed it toward Orr, when the animal made some mild demonstration.

Stating he has considerable personal knowledge of bloodhounds and other dogs trained to trail humans, and the behavior and reactions of the animals when so employed, the Governor said that in his well considered judgment, had Orr been the slayer whom the dogs were purportedly trailing, the moment they entered the same room all of them would immediately have sprung upon him and, if not restrained, literally torn him to pieces.

Killings—1938

NEGROES TO FACE TRIAL IN KILLINGS

Defendants In Two Cases Are Arraigned Before Judge Smith

Defendants in two murder cases which received wide publicity here were among the 21 defendants arraigned Saturday before Judge J. Q. Smith for trial during capital week, starting Monday, Oct. 10.

One of the murder case defendants arraigned yesterday was Harvey Lee Gilmore, Negro, charged with the fatal shooting of Conductor J. O. Hall on a crowded Pratt-Ensley car the morning of March 13 following what the state contends was a robbery attempt. Two other Negroes, Edward Wimbush and David McGuire, previously were convicted for the slaying of Conductor Hall and both were given the death penalty. One of the Negroes, McGuire, has filed a motion for a new trial before Judge Leigh M. Clark, who tried the case, and the request is still under consideration by Judge Clark.

Another Negro, Flanders Williams will go to trial during capital week on a charge of the slaying of Walter Parker, Negro miner for the T. C. I. Parker has not been seen since he left home for work one morning this Spring and despite the absence of a corpus delicti, another Negro, Eugene McDowell, was convicted of slaying Parker and sentenced to life imprisonment. The case was the first of its kind tried in a local court and conviction under such circumstances is extremely rare. Asst. Solicitor Grey Tate prosecuted the case.

In one of the nine robbery cases on the capital week docket, James McDaniel is charged with robbing C. T. Phillips, beer distributing company employe, of \$2,600. The robbery occurred near Phillips' home, 132 Stratford Circle, Homewood.

PAIR ADMITS KILLING YOUTH IN WOODLAWN

Ben Montgomery Slaying, Year-Old Mystery, Is

Finally Solved

CONFESSION IS SUDDEN

Negroes Accuse Each Other Of Firing Pistol In Holdup Attempt

Almost a year ago to the day that the body of Ben Montgomery, 19-year-old Woodlawn youth, was found slumped in his filling station, police today announced the solution of his murder.

Two Negroes have admitted participating in an attempted holdup of the station and each accused the other of the actual shooting, Detective H. H. Weir said. The Negroes are Joe Vernon and L. C. Bell, both of whom are in their 20's and who live in Woodlawn.

Police said that they had been questioning Vernon about recent hobo robberies and after the Negro had confessed to a number of them, Detective Weir asked him quietly: "Now what about Ben Montgomery?"

Blurts Confession

The Negro then blurted out: "I knew you were leading up to that all the time! I knew it! I'll burn! I'll burn."

He then admitted that he had participated in an attempted robbery at the youth's filling station, but named Bell as the Negro who fired the gun.

When first arrested, Bell denied any connection with the Montgomery murder, but later, according to police, he admitted being the other when confronted by Vernon. He maintained, however, that Vernon did the actual shooting.

Vernon was arrested by Detective Weir after he had spent months investigating the Montgomery case. Assisting him in the arrest was Detective J. M. Maynor and four special railroad agents, Joe T. Ballard and J. E. Jones, with the Southern Railway, and W. A. Johnson and Gorman, with the Central of Georgia.

Tells Of Shooting

Young Montgomery's body was found at the filling station, 4737 First-av, n., the morning of Sept. 21, 1937. A student at Woodlawn High School, he worked there in the evenings.

He was found in a half-kneeling position, leading some officers to believe that he may have been pleading for mercy when he was shot down. But Vernon, according to police, said this is the way it happened:

He had known the youth well, frequently loitering at the station and playing a banjo for him. He and Bell decided to rob the station because their girls needed clothing. They went into the filling station and drew guns on Montgomery. When the youth made a motion as if he were reaching for a gun, Bell shot him.

They fled without getting any money, but returned a few minutes later to wipe their finger prints off the door knob.

Terrorized 'Jungles'

Vernon and Bell frequented Woodlawn's hobo jungles and have confessed to engineering 10 holdups between them, Detective Weir said. One of their systems was to raid dice games and they are suspected of having shot Marion LaSusa, of 3700 Fifth-av, n., in a holdup. Another system of theirs, according to Detective Weir, was for one to hold a gun in a hobo's face and make the hobo back up into the arms of the other one, who rifled the victim's pockets. They have been terrorizing the hobo jungle for months, Detective Weir said.

Commissioner Eugene Conner said that doctors would examine the Negroes to see that they hadn't been mistreated in any way.

The two Negroes admitted shooting LaSusa last February and also Special Agent Johnson, but, as in the Montgomery murder, each placed the blame for the actual shooting on the other.

It was Vernon who gave officers a false tip which led to the arrest of a Negro in Nashville as a suspect in the Montgomery murder, police said.

Selma Police Probe

Slaying Of Negress

SELMA, ALA., Oct. 4.—(Special)—Police here continued investigations today in the finding of Leila Cleveland, negro woman, thought to have been murdered, and robbed in her room.

The woman's death, first attributed to possible suicide induced by ill health, was definitely announced as murder by Chief of Police M. L. Dickerson at noon, after three pocket-books containing forty dollars had been recovered from a building near the woman's house. It was believed that the assailant tossed the sack containing the three purses through

a window from an alley which runs parallel to the vacant building after he had slain and robbed the 50-year-old negress.

NEGRO IS TRIED IN TROLLEY SLAYING

Third Defendant Faces Court In Fatal Shooting Of Conductor Here

The trial of Harvey Lee Gilmore, Negro, charged with murder in the fatal shooting of Conductor J. O. Hall, neared its conclusion in Circuit Court today after two state witnesses, by their testimony yesterday, placed a gun in the hands of the defendant the morning of March 13, when Conductor Hall was slain in a gun battle on a crowded Pratt-Ensley street car.

One of the witnesses, Mrs. Ida Sims, 400 Forty-Sixth Street, Wy-lam, said Gilmore fired at the conductor and after the firing ceased ran to a window and apparently attempted to get out. L. H. Owens, 219 Fourth Street, Pratt City, said Gilmore had a gun and was the first to fire at the conductor.

Thomas J. Sexton, 306 Fourth Street, Pratt City, testified he was crouched on the floor of the car to escape being hit by bullets, and someone stepped on him, apparently while trying to get out of a window.

Gilmore is the third Negro to face trial before Judge Leigh M. Clark on a charge of slaying Conductor Hall. The two others, Edward Wimbush and David McGuire, were sentenced to die in the electric chair for their part in the slaying. A fourth Negro, Harvey Gibson, was killed in the gun battle, which the state charges followed a holdup attempt.

Solicitor George Lewis Bailes and Assistant Solicitor Jim Long are prosecuting the case, while George Patterson is attorney for Gilmore.

In two other slaying cases yesterday in Circuit Court, both heard before Judge Robert J. Wheeler, Negro defendants were sentenced to penitentiary terms. Russell Hawkins, about 70, was convicted of first degree manslaughter in the fatal shooting of Dudley Jones, Negro, and sentenced to five years. Percy Duncan was convicted of second degree murder in the fatal shooting of Roy Gordie and sentenced to 10 years.

Negroes Wield Knives; One Dead, 3 Wounded

Police said last night there had been more "knife wielding" among negroes here in the last three days than on any other weekend in several months. Knife wielding, the officers said, seemed to come in uncertain cycles, with never a hint as to when one would begin.

The toll for Friday, Saturday and yesterday was one dead, two or three seriously wounded and a number of others lightly wounded. Lillie Mae Williams, Houston Street negro woman, was stabbed to death about midnight Saturday as the outcome of an argument near her home.

Willie Mae Smith, also a negro, was arrested by Officers Perry and Bailey in connection with the crime.

JURORS ACQUIT NEGRO IN KILLING

Willie McShan Freed In The Death Of Railroad Agent

A Circuit Court jury yesterday afternoon acquitted a Negro, Willie B. McShan, in the slaying of Thomas A. Owens, a special agent for the Central of Georgia Railroad, after an affirmative charge had been given by Judge Robert J. Wheeler.

No evidence of a conspiracy on the part of McShan was shown, Judge Wheeler said, and the defense contended the Negro was unarmed the night of May 10, when Special Agent Owens was slain in a gun battle on a gondola freight car near Gate City. Another special agent for the railroad, William A. Johnson, who was a witness yesterday afternoon, testified he shot and killed Buddy Smith, a Negro, said to have been a companion of McShan. Both Johnson and McShan were wounded.

W. M. Russell was attorney for McShan, while the case was prosecuted by Asst. Solicitors F. R. Mathews and Burgin Hawkins.

Henry Dell, 37, Negro, of 318 Iota Street, was sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary yesterday by a jury in Judge Wheeler's court on a charge of second degree murder in the fatal shooting of Julius Williams, Negro. Dell contended he shot Williams in self-defense.

NEGRO FREED IN BIRMINGHAM COP'S DEATH

BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 20—(ANP)—Willie B. McShan was exonerated by a jury Tuesday on a directed verdict of the murder of Thomas A. Owens, white, special agent of the Central of Georgia railroad. This is one of the few times in this area when a Negro charged with murdering an officer has been acquitted.

Judge Robert J. Wheeler ordered the verdict of not guilty on the ground there was no evidence showing that McShan fired the shot that killed Owens during a gun battle on a railroad slag car Sept. 11. At that time Special Agent William A. Johnson, Jr., was wounded and Orange Smith, a companion of McShan, was slain. McShan was slightly wounded.

However, the defendant must face trial on charges of assault and battery against Johnson. McShan was defended by a court-appointed attorney, W. M. Russell, white.

Killed White Cop In South, Is Acquitted

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"WE GAVE HIM HELL" TESTIMONY MAY GET DAVE CANTY NEW TRIAL

White Witness, on Stand Under Oath, Makes Damaging Charges Against Montgomery Police—Convicted Man's Lawyers Seek New Trial.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Sept. 29 (Special)—Following ruling by Circuit Judge Eugene Carter, denying motion for a new trial in the case of Dave Canty, convicted last Spring of the robbery murder of Miss Eunice Ward, retired trained nurse, and sentenced to death, an announcement was made here Thursday by defense counsel that an appeal will be taken to the Alabama Supreme Court, both from the judgment of conviction and denial of the motion.

"We Gave Him Hell"

Alex Birch and Edward W. Wadsworth, attorneys for Canty, in support of their contention for a new trial, insisted that Canty's alleged confession to the crime, which he had made, was not voluntary, but was wrung from him by force and threats. In this connection they introduced the testimony of a white witness who stated under oath he had heard a city plain-clothes operative tell the Chief of Detectives in referring to Canty during the original trial, that "we gave him hell." Both officers denied any knowledge of such a statement.

Repeatedly Beaten

Another ground for a new trial stressed by counsel was variance between the averment in the indictment returned against Canty asserting the murder victim had been slain by blows with a blunt instrument a further description of which was unknown, and the proof offered by the State at the trial that she had been struck with a heavy glass insulator.

Canty testified from the witness stand he had been repeatedly beaten by police officers following his arrest, until he signed the purported confession that was introduced in evidence against him.

Pike Negro Denies Charge Of Murder

TROY, ALA., Nov. 26.—(Special).—Sam Underwood, negro, who allegedly killed several colored people at Brundidge, and who has been indicted by a Grand Jury of Pike county for first degree murder, was brought before Judge Will L. Parks this week, and through his attorney pleaded "not guilty, and not guilty by reason of insanity."

A special venire of 50 men including three negroes was drawn, and from these jurors will be selected to try Underwood.

The date for the trial has been set for next Thursday, Dec. 1. Underwood did not have an attorney and the court appointed A. G. Seay, Judge T. L. Borom, John Walters and Hugh Bradley, members of the local bar, to defend him.

Lie-Detector Sought To Aid Negro In Murder Case

Body Of Victim Never Found, But Youth Is Sentenced To 25 Years; Attorney Contends That He Is Innocent, Hopes To Prove It To Jury

Because he doubts seriously that the "victim" of the "murder" is dead, a Birmingham attorney will attempt to obtain a lie-detector to save a 19-year-old Negro from a 25-year penitentiary term for killing a man whose body has never been found.

The attorney, Albert Boutwell, who was appointed by the trial judge because the Negro was unable to employ a lawyer, says he is thoroughly convinced the defendant is innocent.

The Negro, Flanders Williams, was sentenced to 25 years imprisonment by a jury in Circuit Judge J. Russell McElroy's court last week in the killing of Walter Parker, Negro. Previously Eugene McDowell, another Negro, received a life sentence for the same crime.

Body Never Found

The case is unusual in that the body of the "victim" was never found. A recognized tenet of criminal law is the necessity of establishing the existence of the body.

A witness said he heard McDowell and Williams plotting to kill Parker. Another testified that McDowell and Williams were in an auto together a short time before the slaying is said to have occurred. Splotches on the seat covers of the auto were never officially established as being bloodstains.

Mr. Boutwell offered to have "truth serum" used on Williams and to allow Williams' statement to go to the jury, but the prosecution declined to agree to the use of the serum. So-called "truth serum" was used in connection with an ax murder case here several years ago.

McDowell Appeals

Mr. Boutwell, who also represented McDowell, said he had not discussed use of the lie-detector on McDowell. The McDowell case has been appealed. He said, however, he would see that Williams was given the advantage of the lie-detector test, even though it might be necessary to ask for public sub-

Killings - 1938

Alabama.

Whip Drew Confession, Says Cantey

Murder Of Eunice Ward Denied, Negro Seeks To Establish An Alibi Trial's End Near

Officers Term Defendant's Story Of 'Third Degree' Fantastic; Rebuttal Slated

By GRADY PANNELL

Taking the witness stand late yesterday, Dave Cantey, negro, on trial in Circuit Court for the murder of Miss Eunice Ward, school nurse, said he was beaten by State and city officers into signing a statement of confession of the crime.

He mentioned City Detectives A. C. Dennison and A. Chancellor as the leaders in the series of whippings and other punishments he received while in Kilby Prison and in the basement of the new City Hall.

The two-day-old trial was not completed yesterday as court officials had hoped. A recess was taken shortly before 7:30 p.m. until this morning when Cantey will complete his testimony as the final witness for the defense. The State is expected to call one or two rebuttal witnesses before arguments to the jury begin.

Cantey told the jury he was beaten severely four days in succession at Kilby Prison because he would not say he killed Miss Ward and injured her sister, Miss Lillian Ward, in a thicket off the Vaughan Road on Saturday afternoon, March 19. The witness said the lash and other weapons of torture were applied at police headquarters a few days after he had been beaten at Kilby. He exhibited to the jury what he said were scars from those whippings, most of them being on the legs below the knees.

A Grave Threat
The negro said threats of death were also made by the detectives unless he "came across" with a confession. While at the city hall, Dave told the jury Officer Dennison left the room to see if "the grave had been dug" for him. He further stated that Sam D. Stearns, former sheriff who is now connected with the police department, came into the room where they had him and informed the other officers that Miss Lillian Ward, So-

licitor W. T. Seibels and Col. W. P. Screws, member of the City Commission, had said it was all right with them to go ahead and kill Cantey from near where the crime occurred. Veteran officers said after Judge J. E. Lindsey, deputy warden at Eugene W. Carter recessed court that "Cantey's tale about the beatings he suffered" was "the most fantastic account of a 'third degree' they had ever heard from the lips of any defendant or any other witness."

Earlier in the trial each officer who worked on the case testified that so far as they knew not a hand was laid on Cantey at any time during his imprisonment. They insisted his confession was voluntary and without the hope of reward.

Denies Killing

"Dave, did you kill that woman near the Masonic Home?" was the first question asked the defendant by his attorney, Ed Wadsworth, after he took the stand. "No, sir," was the short answer. Then he proceeded to tell the jury his side of the case, beginning on the Friday night before the attack and on through his imprisonment. Dave said he ran away and went to Mobile to avoid being hounded by persons whom he owed money.

The negro testified he spent that Friday night preceding the crime at the home of a cousin here in the city, and spent practically all Saturday afternoon on Monroe Street. A number of witnesses had testified during the afternoon of seeing him on Monroe Street. Cantey was positive he did not get off Monroe during the afternoon, although one of his witnesses said she saw him on Dexter Avenue in front of Silver's store.

He told the jury he spent Saturday night at the home of his mother at Madison Park, went to a wedding the next day, and was at a night club in town. He insisted she was warning him to escape the wrath of the money. He told the jury he spent Saturday night at the home of his mother at Madison Park, went to a wedding the next day, and was at a night club in town. He insisted she was warning him to escape the wrath of the money.

Bus Driver Testifies

Lee Lindsey, bus driver for the Montgomery City Lines, said Cantey got on his bus late Saturday afternoon, March 19, the day Miss Ward was killed. He said he saw her and her sister, Miss Lillian Ward, were accosted and brutally beaten in a thicket off the Vaughan Road. Witness Lindsey told the jury he was attracted by the negro's nervous condition when he caught the bus one block from the terminal of the Oak Park line on Clubview. He said Cantey had run some distance in order to catch the bus. Lindsey stated that he noticed the negro's hand trembled when he handed the driver a dime, and that he continued to breathe hard after taking his seat in the back of the car. The witness further stated that Cantey wore a dark cap, brown pants and a blue shirt—the same description as to clothes given on the pre-

vious day by three boys from the Masonic Home, who said they saw a negro, identified as Cantey, run away from near where the crime occurred. He, too, denied that the negro had been coerced into signing a confession. Mr. Stearns was one of the city's leading detectives that investigated the slaying of Miss Ward and saw Cantey on several occasions after his arrest in Mobile.

His Other Wanderings

He said he stayed at this house all day Monday and went to Ripley Street the next night. On Tuesday, according to the witness, the fortune teller who lives next door to the Harlem Country Club went in her automobile and brought him to her house, where he spent the night. Dave, continuing his story, said he stayed there all day Wednesday with the old woman's daughter. He told the jury the fortune teller returned about dark, that her husband gave him a pair of overalls and showed him to the railroad tracks. Dave stated he and a white man caught a freight train several miles south of Montgomery, and he went to Mobile, got a job and had worked one day when the detectives arrested him.

Cantey said the beatings started before he got out of Mobile, declaring the "big fat man" whom he thought was Dennison, was administering it while he was at police headquarters for Chief of Detectives Paul Rapoport to take him back to Montgomery. At Kilby Prison, the defendant asserted Dennison, Chancellor and Motorcycle Officer Carlisle of the State Highway Patrol gave him the first of a series of beatings. "They beat me to my knees and Mr. Chancellor kicked me until he gave out," the witness went on. He said they then put him into the "dog house" and the next day found Dennison out there again, administering another terrific beating. A few days later when he was taken to the site of the crime, the negro told the jury Detective Dennison threatened to kill him and Mr. Chancellor, he asserted stepped into a mud hole and kicked him until he had cleaned off his shoe.

Demonstrates Beatings

Dave described the alleged whippings with gesticulations which he said the officers went through in punishing him. He frequently stood and on a few occasions walked to the rail in front of the jury box.

Dave said Detective Stearns finally enticed him into saying he robbed and hit the woman, but he made the admission to escape further pain he paid them. That, she told the jury, was the reason she advised him to leave town on the Sunday night confession, the negro stated he signed another paper at Kilby Prison on the same day but did not know what it was.

The 30-odd witnesses called to the stand in behalf of Cantey, in an effort to establish an alibi, included two preachers, one of whom is said to have baptized the defendant. They told of seeing Cantey on Monroe Street on the day of the crime. Only one of the witnesses said she saw Dave at places other than on Monroe Street. He was seen, the witnesses asserted, on both sides of the street. Some said they saw him on the sunny side, others on the shady side, and a few testified there was no sun at all, for it was raining when they saw him.

Before recessing court last night, Judge Carter announced that by agreement with the defendant, his counsel and Solicitor Seibels, members of the jury would be permitted to return to their homes for the night. However, the judge admonished each of the 12 men not to discuss the case with anyone. The jury was locked up at the Whitley Hotel on Thursday night.

Capacity Crowd

Another capacity crowd attended yesterday's session, many spectators having been forced to stand. Scores of others were turned away, as was the case on the preceding day. The crowd was orderly, but occasionally Judge Carter had to threaten to clear the room unless laughter or other unnecessary noise ceased. When Cantey took the stand late in the afternoon, the crowd surged as close to the defendant as it was possible to get. Strict silence was maintained throughout his testimony, everyone present intent on hearing every word.

Shortly before he took the stand Cantey complained to his counsel of feeling "a little sick." The lawyers were also tired and worn, but the jury expressed a desire to go on with the case. According to their wish, Judge Carter said the case would continue so as to complete all testimony before recess. But when the direct examination of Cantey was concluded, everybody seemed in a frame of mind to call it a day and resume the case early this morning.

Cantey said he went by the name of "Rudy Ray" while he worked with his cousins in Chattanooga. Their name, he asserted, was Ray. He had been back home only a short time before Miss Eunice Ward was fatally beaten and slashed and her sister seriously injured as they picked lilies.

Once Lived Near Spot

It developed during testimony by the defense that Cantey had formerly lived at Holt's Crossing near the Masonic Home. His mother, Beulah Cobbs, said Dave was 23 years of age and that his father had been dead 24 years. This statement led Solicitor Seibels to remark, "Somebody's made an error, but let it go at that." She testified that Dave was born at one of Cecil. The mother also told the jury der. White is alleged to have killed

Reporter On Stand
One of the last witnesses for the defense was Grover C. Hall, Jr., reporter for The Advertiser, who interviewed Miss Lillian Ward at St. Margaret's Hospital. Reporter Hall was used in an effort to impeach some of the testimony of Miss Ward. The State rested its case shortly before the noon recess and after Col. W. P. Screws, member of the City Commission, had concluded his testimony. Commissioner Screws, questioned only briefly by the solicitor, was kept on the stand by defense counsel for about a half hour, telling of his various activities in the search for the assailant of Miss Ward, and also of what transpired after Cantey's arrest.

Murder Trial Ends Suddenly Adversely Negro Slayer Changes Plea And Takes

10 Years

A murder case terminated abruptly yesterday in Circuit Court after lawyers had begun arguments to the jury. Atty. Alex Birch, representing a negro defendant on trial for his life, effected a compromise with Solicitor W. T. Seibels after the two had exchanged several verbal shots in their remarks to the jury, and before Judge Eugene W. Carter had charged the jury on the law in the case. The defendant, Pompey White, got changing his plea from not guilty to guilty of guilty of second degree murder. White is alleged to have killed

a negro woman about four years ago. He left the city and was not arrested until a few months ago.

John Smith, a negro with one arm was convicted of robbery and got 25 years in the penitentiary.

Willie White, another negro, was acquitted of robbery. He had been indicted for taking \$141 from a negro man.

The trial of Dave Cantey, charged with the murder of Miss Eunice Ward, was set for yesterday, but the case was carried over until today. The only other capital case remaining on the docket is that of Hirman Newton, accused of robbery. Judge Carter will try Cantey with Judge Walter B. Jones presiding in the other case.

16-Year-Old Boy Fatally Wounded By White Father

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(SNS)—H. E. Colburn, 31-year-old white man who several weeks ago shot and killed John Henry Lewis, 16, in the corridor of the Jefferson County Court House only a few minutes after Lewis had been sentenced to 99 years in the penitentiary for an alleged attack on Colburn's 7-year-old daughter, had been set free Friday by the Jefferson County grand jury.

Following the shooting, Colburn was heard to say over a telephone, "I GOT THE 'N.'". He was placed under arrest at the direction of Coroner G. M. Evans, who returned a verdict of unlawful homicide and ordered him held in the city jail.

At a preliminary trial, an attempt by Attorney Roderick Beddow to get Colburn out on bond failed and he was returned to jail to await the session of the grand jury which didn't convene until this month.

The murder of the Lewis lad, who maintained his innocence until the last, and who was meted out a 99 year sentence by an all white jury, stirred up much feeling among the colored citizens of Birmingham. Several meetings were held and it was decided to employ counsel to aid in prosecuting the white man. Also the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People entered the case by putting on a special drive for memberships to test out public sentiment in the case. A legal committee recommended that Attorney Shores be employed to work with Solicitor Dean, who after a conference with Shores, promised to prosecute the case of the fullest extent of his ability.

John Lewis Smith, who had been charged with attacking the 7-year-old daughter of Colburn, was killed by four

shots fired by Colburn who was ambushed in a telephone booth. At the time he was killed, Smith was being led to an elevator by Detectives W. M. Epsy and J. W. McFarland and Court Bailiff Homer Brown. During the trial of Smith, Colburn had been denied admittance to the court room.

The slain lad had been confined in jail since January, and had maintained his innocence until the last. He lived with his widowed mother, Mrs. Amanda Hill, of 1355 Ina Alley, N., who also was not permitted to witness the trial of her son.

According to the mother of the slain youth, her boy had worked for two years as a dishwasher and firemaker for a white family who operated a boarding house. The Colburn family were roomers. The youth had experienced "trouble" at the house on several previous occasions, as revealed in a letter written by the boy while in jail to his mother. The letter said, "If I had listened to you, mother, I wouldn't have been in this trouble."

While in jail, the boy wrote several letters to former white employers, begging for legal aid, and declaring his innocence.

The exoneration of Colburn marks the fourth time that white slayers of Negro prisoners while in custody of officers of the law have been turned loose without punishment in Birmingham.

Assistant Solicitor Robert C. McAdory expressed the opinion that under Alabama law any subsequent grand jury could, if it saw fit, indict Colburn for his killing of Smith.

Pike Indicts 22, 1 For Murder

TROY, ALA., Sept. 23.—(Special)—The grand jury empanelled Monday returned 22 indictments, and 30 presentments were investigated. Of the indictments, 20 were felonies and two misdemeanors.

Sheriff Reeves was requested to search for gambling devices, and all other things which would "corrupt" morals of the County. Thanks was extended to the sheriff for the work in clearing up the homicides which were committed in Brundidge.

Flowers was thanked as bailiff. Sam Underwood, negro, held since Wednesday, Aug. 24, for slaying his wife and another negro woman at Brundidge, was indicted. Underwood was also indicted for the brick-knife slaying of Giff Brady, white night watchman at Brundidge, in July of this year.

Underwood is said to have confessed to the Brady murder at the time he was arrested for slaying his wife. His child, Brazel Underwood, 5, who was hit on the head with a hammer, Aug. 24, died this week.

Underwood implicated four other negroes, Freeman Wood, Agie Key, Carter Bradbury, and Maude Bradbury in the crime at Brundidge, but the grand jury failed to return indictments against the quartet. Underwood has been held at Kilby since his arrest.

Court Refuses Canty Appeal For New Trial

Case Unlikely To Reach Supreme Body Before Spring Of 1939

Motion for a new trial for Dave Canty, negro, convicted at the Spring term of Circuit Court for the murder of Miss Eunice Ward, was denied yesterday by Judge Eugene W. Carter. Counsel for the doomed man said they would appeal to the Supreme Court from both the judgment of conviction and the judge's ruling on the motion for a second trial.

Inasmuch as the defense has 90 days in which to present its bill of exceptions, it is unlikely the case will come on the December call of the Supreme Court. Canty's counsel intimated the appeal could hardly reach the high tribunal before the Spring term of 1939.

Judge Carter announced his decision in the motion immediately on close of the hearing, which had begun last Friday and resumed at 10 a.m. yesterday.

In seeking a new trial, Attys. Ed Wadsworth and Alex Birch, counsel for Canty, again raised the contention the purported confession was invol-

untary and obtained by threats and force.

Another strong point raised at the hearing as grounds for a new trial was defense counsel's claim of variance between the averments in the indictment and the proof offered at the trial last Spring, as to the type weapon used by Miss Ward's assailant. The indictment, it was pointed out, stated she was killed by being hit or cut with some sort of heavy instrument, a further description of which was unknown to the grand jury. Attys. Birch and Wadsworth argued that the grand jury had evidence before it at the time to show the school nurse was hit with an insulator, and that the indictment should have been specific in naming the weapon.

A third ground for a new trial was on the basis of newly discovered evidence. At the hearing last Friday Canty's lawyers produced a witness, Robert Tharp, who swore he overheard City Detective A. Chancellor tell Chief of Detectives Paul Rapport as they were leaving the courtroom during the trial, "we gave him hell." But Chancellor denied making such a statement to Chief Rapport or anyone else. The conversation is alleged to have taken place at the head of the stairs outside the courtroom.

Miss Ward, for many years connected with the local health department, and her sister, Miss Lillian Ward, a former nurse, were brutally beaten late one afternoon as they picked flowers in a thicket near the Masonic Home. Miss Eunice never regained consciousness and died a few days later at a hospital. Miss Lillian was in the hospital for several weeks but was able to testify as one of the State's star witnesses at the trial held in May, which was about two months after the crime.

Killings - 1938

Negro Held In Death Of White Brick Mason

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., Jan. 17.—(AP)—First degree murder charges were filed today against Burl Brown, 24-year-old negro, for the fatal shooting of W. O. Kidd, 55-year-old white brick mason, in an altercation Sunday night. Kidd died at a local hospital four hours after the shooting.

Police Chief Hardin D. Billingsley said the shooting took place at a negro's home. Kidd and a companion had gone to the place to ask the whereabouts of another negro accused of stealing an automatic pistol from Kidd, he said.

Brown entered into the quarrel and shot Kidd in the head with the white man's own weapon after knocking him to the floor with his fist, the chief said.

Doomed Negro Gains Reprieve

Paul Bigby's Death Put Off Four Weeks By Executive Order

A reprieve of four weeks was granted by Gov. Graves yesterday to Paul Bigby, negro, convicted in Houston County of first degree murder and sentenced to be executed on Jan. 28, after the clemency plea of the condemned had been heard by the Chief Executive and members of the State Board of Pardons. Execution of the death sentence was suspended for the four-week period so a transcript of the evidence might be prepared and presented for consideration by the governor and the board. The trial judge and solicitor will be requested to forward during the interim, letters setting out their views.

Bigby was found guilty of shooting Dewey Riley, a white man, with a pistol, inflicting a wound that proved fatal. At his hearing yesterday, the negro did not deny the shooting, but said he fired in self-defense. Admitting he had operated a "bootleg joint," Bigby said Riley and two companions come into the place, bought a small bottle of whisky, and were present when he paid a man \$10 for some liquor supplied him. Later, he said, the three white men returned and attempted a holdup, Riley drawing a knife, and it was then, he said that he, Bigby, opened fire with a pistol.

It developed that some years ago Bigby was given a 20-year prison sentence for the slaying of his wife and another man, and was paroled after serving a portion of it. It also developed that one of the companions

of Riley is now serving a prison term for robbery.

During the morning, Gov. Graves and members of the Pardon Board heard the clemency pleas of R. G. Vaughn and Frank Millhouse, negroes also under sentence to die in the electric chair at Kilby Prison on Jan. 28, for the holdup murder of Neil T. Sanne, Mobile grocer. Claiming alibis, both protested their innocence, one stating he was at a picture show, the other that he was calling on a woman of his acquaintance, at the time the crime was committed. Testimony in their behalf included that of a number of relatives of each of the men seeking clemency.

Two Killers Dying In Electric Chair

Negroes Expiating Murder Of Four Years Ago

Two Mobile negroes were to die early this morning in Kilby Prison's electric chair, exactly four years, to the day, after the robbery-murder for which they were convicted.

They are R. G. Vaughn, 22, and Frank Millhouse, 23. Gov. Graves late yesterday denied their pleas for commutation, informing each personally that he must die or the slaying of Neil T. Sanne, Mobile grocer, not to death at 8 p.m. Jan. 28, 1935.

Mrs. Grace Sanne, the grocer's wife, was critically wounded in the fusillade fired by two unmasked bandits, apparently without reason, but recovered. She identified Vaughn and Millhouse in court, as did three negroes who saw the bandit pair flee.

Vaughn and Millhouse, the latter on parole from a grand larceny sentence when arrested, pleaded an alibi. Each claimed he was in a different section.

The State Pardon Board recommended that a jury's sentence be carried out, as did Solicitor Bart B. Chamberlain, of Mobile.

Officer Slays Negro

EUPLALA, ALA., Feb. 1.—(Special) While resisting arrest, Mack James, 35-year-old negro, was shot in the leg by Officer Dick McCarthy, Jr., and later died Sunday morning from loss of blood. The negro was said to have thrown the policeman to the ground in an effort to get away. The affair took place on Pepper Hill, where several officers went in search of negro bootleggers.

Marengo Counts Six Dead Negroes And Arrests Six

LINDEN, ALA., Feb. 15.—Six killings among the negroes of Marengo County by negroes in about six weeks and all six alleged killers lodged in jail here is a rather neat little record any way one takes it. Three of the prisoners are 21 years old and younger and one of them is a woman.

The latest prisoner is Joseph Frazier, 20, who lived on his grandmother's place near Jefferson. He is charged with killing her by shooting her in the face with a shotgun, calling the sheriff's forces and claiming that she had committed suicide with the empty gun lying across her body. The flaw in his case seemed to be the fact that the gun had not been shot and the sheriff had him to produce the gun that he had hidden. The motive apparently was money, as the victim, Caroline Frazier, 65, was well established farmer.

Sixteen-year-old Julius Johnson, of the Paulding place near Uniontown, shot Seligman Eaton, 25, with a pistol, the resulting wounds terminating in death. Annie Mae Jones, of Thomas, used a knife on Charlie Jones, Jr., with fatal results, while Joe Harris, of Faunsdale, took no chances on his victim, a Shields woman, escaping alive, for he shot her with a shotgun, beat her with the stock, then added the back of an ax as a finishing touch.

Elmore Deputy Cleared In Shooting Of Negro

WETUMPKA, ALA., Feb. 27.—(Special)—Sheriff's Deputy Reeves Faulk was freed today of any charges in connection with the slaying Thursday of Eli Reese, 55, negro. A hearing held late yesterday afternoon, said Will Austin, Elmore sheriff, gave a verdict absolving the deputy.

It was brought out the deputy went to the Cobb plantation to arrest Reese on a charge of pocketing a thief. While returning the negro to the car, Sheriff Austin said the negro hit the deputy with a brick and grappled with him. The deputy shot in self-defense, witnesses declared.

Birmingham Woman Freed In Negro's Death

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., April 25.—(P)—Mrs. Georgia Hollingsworth, who stood in the doorway of her home with a gun in either hand and shot ten times at Jesse Randolph, 22-year-old negro, was exonerated today in Randolph's death.

Coroner M. Evans reported a finding of justifiable homicide.

Girls who live at Mrs. Hollings-

worth's home told police the negro had been warned away from the house and Sunday the matronly woman shot him when he refused to leave the front porch.

B'HAM AROUSED OVER RUTHLESS PISTOL MURDER

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.—(S N S)—

Eye witnesses yesterday related a gruesome story of the fatal shooting of Jesse Randolph, 22-year-old service station attendant at Tenth Alley, North.

Mrs. Georgia Hollingsworth, white, of 1024 No. Twenty-Fourth Street, admitted the killing, stating to police that Randolph attempted to gain entrance to the house on several occasions.

Hollingsworth also stated that Randolph had offered money to some of the occupants of the house, five women and one man, as a means of gaining entrance.

The investigating officers' report also showed that three shots were fired at Randolph through the screen door and that he ran from the house and fell a few yards away at 10th Alley and 24th Street.

Colored eyewitnesses gave a different story of the affair.

Mrs. Mattie Adkins, 1018 24th St. No., witnessed the shooting through her front room window, just a few feet from the shooting scene. After she heard the first shot that occurred at the woman's home, Mrs. Adkins stated that Randolph ran to the Alley entrance and fell and that Mrs. Hollingsworth followed with two guns in her hands. She talked to the youth as he emptied both guns into his heart and head, reports state. Some of the statements that she was allegedly overheard to say were:

"I told you that I was going to kill you." "You are a son-of-a-bitch." "You're a no good B..." Taking the youth by the shirt Mrs. Hollingsworth knelt over him and emptied one of the guns, according to statements from three different witnesses who viewed the episode from advantage points.

Charley Taylor, 2413 No. 10th Alley, Mrs. Florence Williams and Daniel Jackson, both of 2401 10th

Alley No. 2, attempted to cross the street to the scene of the shooting when Mrs. Hollingsworth reportedly threatened to shoot the first who came near. The trio stopped, they said. Two of the residents (white) of the house in question, also allegedly attempted to get Mrs. Hollingsworth away from the scene and on both attempts she is said to have threatened to shoot those who interfered. She stood guard over the body until officers arrived, according to reports. When all shots were fired from the pistol the assailant used the butt end of the pistol to batter the victim's head, it was stated. Kicking the body several times and uttering curse statements as in a fit of anger symbolized the gruesome scene, according to witnesses.

According to one witness, the first officer to arrive complimented the lady for "doing a fine job" and witnessed the kicking of the body. The second group of investigating officers reportedly relieved the lady of the two pistols and prevented the body from being further kicked around. No arrest was made. Findings in an inquest that were held Monday morning by the coroner could not be learned. One of the colored witnesses was called together with occupants of the house that is said by neighbors to be disorderly.

The first bullet missed its mark across the street that is occupied by several colored families, it was revealed.

Relatives of the slain man were making final preparations for burial yesterday. Mrs. Francis Randolph, 19, wife of the slain man and an expectant mother, was being consoled by friends.

"Jessie has never been in any trouble and I don't believe he was then," she said when interviewed by a WORLD reporter at the home of an aunt, Mrs. Florrie Cotton.

She related a story of her husband being intoxicated on last Saturday night and how his boss, Mr. Jack Cleveland, operator of the Norwood Service Station, 12th Avenue and 26th Street, locked her husband in the back of the station until he sobered up. This occurred around 12 P. M., according to reports, and around 4 A. M. Randolph appeared in the front of the station and wandered toward home.

In addition to a wife and aunt Randolph is survived by an uncle, Lawrence Randolph; Anglee Lee

Randolph and three other sisters, mother, Mrs. Viola Randolph, of Wetumpka, Ala., and a host of relatives and friends. Efforts to press charges in the case were being made yesterday by relatives. Davenport and Harris, Funeral Directors are in charge of funeral arrangements.

Alabama's Kemp Freed Of Murder Charge In Death Of White Man

MOBILE, Ala., Mar. 24—Unprecedented in the annals of court history in Mobile county was the 18-minute verdict of acquittal voted by an all-white jury last Wednesday in the case of Tom Kemp, Negro box factory fireman, charged by the State with the death of Midd Draughan, white foreman at the Roux Box and Crate Company, where both were employed.

Young Daniel T. McCall, Jr., white, court appointed attorney for the defense furnished irrefutable evidence that the foreman's death was accidental. The State, through Solicitor Bart B. Chamberlain, aided by statements from the John Reed and Willie Pugh, two Negroes who were also employed at the box factory, had demanded the death penalty for Kemp, charging that he reached out with a stoking hook and jerked Draughan into a fire pit.

Young McCall, on cross-examination of the State's witnesses, Reed and Pugh, introduced another statement they had signed the day after Draughan's death stating that the white man's death was accidental. The statement had been made to representatives of the box company who, despite efforts of the company to relieve itself of the responsibility of Draughan's death, disregarded the importance of the affidavit and complied with the request for the same which was made by McCall on one of his several visits to the factory seeking additional evidence in the case. This evidence had not been obtained by the attorney for the defense in the first trial, which resulted in a mistrial.

Fairness In Court

The remarkable manifestation of fairness of the circuit court jury acquitting Kemp in record time and the untiring work of young McCall in seeking evidence to absolve the defendant of the charge, attest to a new spirit of justice and understanding unmoved by race prejudice developing here and there in the South.

The Mobile Branch of the N. A. A. C. P., convinced of Kemp's innocence, assisted in the defense by contributing money for the transcript of testimony of the first trial and the making of essential photographs of the fire pits at the box factory.

Negro Thief Held

As Death Suspect The Negro And The Law

Tuscaloosa, Ala., News
April 3, 1938

If it had not been for those two negroes who lent their aid to Governor Graves and the police, Dave Canty might never have been arrested in connection with the heinous crime at Montgomery which saw two middle-aged white nurses viciously attacked and one of them killed.

Those two negroes went to the governor and told him that Canty was responsible for the crime, and they directed the officers to his home. The Canty negro was not there, but he was traced to Mobile and soon arrested. He has now confessed to his crime—one of the worst in the annals of Alabama—and all of us who believe in the enforcement of our laws will applaud the action of the two negroes.

Too often have we assumed that the negro is always ready to shelter the criminal of his own race from arrest by white authorities in the South, and this has militated against all black people. We have been led to believe that, with the negro, the race issue came first and the enforcement of the law came a poor second—but too many times have we seen happenings like the one at Montgomery to put any credence in this theory any longer.

True, there are some negroes who are always ready to harbor a criminal of their own race, no matter how vicious, but these are the few. The great majority of negroes are just as anxious as the white people to see that the perpetrators of such crimes as the one at Montgomery are brought to justice. These crimes shock the negro no less than they shock the white, and it is with the help of the negroes—help such as that which those two negroes gave at Montgomery—that the laws will be so strictly enforced that we can get farther and farther away from the effort to administer justice outside the courts.

The gunbattle is said to have followed the culmination of a dispute over land ownership and use, the lands owned by Powell and the negro adjoining.

Yesterday's developments in the murder investigation consisted of the arrest of one negro of the variety and the pursuit of another. Policemen Mike Chisholm and J. L. Miller arrested the "voo-doo" on an admittedly flimsy tip. The negro qualifies as a voo-doo because he went to an aged, blind negro and promised to restore his sight by means of throwing a "spell."

He told the aged lady that ritual was highly important in throwing his spells. So the old man let him do his shoes as requested. The voo-doo one promptly walked out of the house in the negro's shoes pausing only to pocket 60 cents. The second suspect was pursued when a negro astride a mule charged the Policeman Bill Collins at the crime scene, and said, "I know her of the affidavit and complied with the request for the same which was made by McCall on one of his several visits to the factory seeking additional evidence in the case. This evidence had not been obtained by the attorney for the defense in the first trial, which resulted in a mistrial."

This suspect had fled and blood hounds were set on his trail as funeral services were being held from the Baptist Church for Miss Ward. The trail was lost.

The tipster explained that his chief reason for believing the fugitive was the killer lay in the fact that several days before he had stolen a suit of clothes from his home.

3 Negroes, Youth Shot In Geneva Gunfight

SAMSON, ALA., May 6.—(Special)—Allegedly as a result of a neighborhood feud regarding land boundaries, Coy Powell, 18, son of Cliff Powell, white farmer living on the Geneva-Coffee boundary, eight miles north of Samson, lies at the point of death from pistol shot wounds and three negroes, Henry Mincey and two adult sons were wounded by blasts of shotgun fire from the Powells late in the afternoon on Thursday.

The negroes, officers said, emptied two .32 pistols, at close range, five shots taking effect in Coy Powell as he stood firing at the negroes. None of the negroes are believed seriously injured and their wounds were dressed in Samson, after which they were taken by Deputy Sheriff McCall to the county jail at Geneva. Powell was hurried to a hospital in Do-

Negro Fires At White Man And Kills Own Son

Firing at a white man with whom he was having a violent quarrel, Charlie Thomas, Negro of 1321 Thirty-Ninth Street, North, shot and killed his son, Johnnie, late Saturday afternoon at a filling station at Thirty-Ninth Street and Tenth Avenue, North.

Identity of the white man had not been determined at a late hour. Detectives Weir and Bryan investigated.

NEGRO'S SLAYER TO STAY IN JAIL

Avenging Father Will Get Preliminary Hearing Next Week

H. E. Colburn, 31-year-old mechanic who killed a Negro to avenge his 7-year-old daughter, must remain in County Jail until a jury acts on his case, County Solicitor Cecil Deason said today. Mr. Deason, who said the preliminary hearing would be held in County Court of Misdemeanors probably the last of next week, asserted he would oppose vigorously any effort to have the man released on bail.

"Although this is an extraordinary case, the law must take its normal course," the solicitor declared. "Nothing will be done about bond. I want Colburn to remain in jail until his case goes before a jury."

Authorities were still unable to explain how the young father obtained the pistol he used to kill the Negro, John Lewis Smith, in the corridor outside the courtroom where the Negro received a 99-year sentence for carnal knowledge of the child.

Colburn was transferred from Ensley Jail to County Jail. A warrant charging him with murder was sworn out by Detective J. W. McFarland.

Daughter's Avenger Freed By Grand Jury

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., June 9.—(AP)—H. E. Colburn, held in county jail since he shot and killed a negro convicted May 13 of molesting Colburn's seven-year-old daughter, was freed today after a county grand jury returned a no bill in the negro's death.

The negro, John Lewis Smith, was given a 99-year sentence a few minutes before he was shot. Colburn surrendered to officers as the negro lay dying in the corridor just outside the courtroom. Four bullets had been fired from the pistol Colburn gave officers.

The grand jury heard evidence in

the shooting earlier this week. Bond had been refused Colburn under a warrant sworn out immediately after the negro was shot.

Killings - 1938

Alabama

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
June 11, 1938

The Colburn Case

Many considerations should be weighed, many fine distinctions doubtless should be made, in considering the return of a Grand Jury no-bill in the case of the Birmingham father who killed a Negro in a corridor of the Jefferson County Court-house shortly after the latter had been given a 99-year sentence for carnal knowledge of the slayer's 7-year-old daughter.

But the plain fact is that this action by the Grand Jury, in the solemn name of the law, says that, under certain conditions, it is justifiable to go outside the law.

Further it condones, in the name of the law, the setting-aside of another decree of the law—the 99-year sentence for the Negro—through the slaying of the prisoner—and the community is presented with a strange paradox in which the law in effect would seem to cancel out the law.

That is to say, thinking this business through, we have in the first instance the law formally passing sentence in a case, then a violation of the law which sets aside that sentence and substitutes death by personal action, then formal action by the law which, in effect, justifies the law violation.

For we cannot conceive how the Grand Jury's action can be construed as specifically meaning that there was no law violation in the shooting.

This whole tragic case would seem to call for the clearest possible and most thorough thinking. It should not be dismissed merely on the basis of one's emotional and instinctive reaction.

In the first place, this paper desires to say specifically it has no intent to pass judgment on the father. It can understand, it believes, something of the terrible compulsion under which he doubtless acted.

Moreover, we are not attempting to influence any specific action of the courts.

At the same time, it seems incapable to us that the act itself of the father—quite aside from the question of his responsibility and of the judgment upon him—was an act in violation of the law, something that under the general theory of our law cannot be defended and therefore should not

be condoned.

There is a distinction between condemning an action and condemning the person who performed the act. Under our view, human beings must pass judgment upon actions that have a social effect. Judgment upon the human being we prefer to suspend, insofar as is practicable, though, of course, in attempting to protect society judgment must often be passed upon the individual. Even such judgments, however, we prefer to regard as a deterrent and an attempt toward advancing social protection.

It is in that spirit that we conceive it our duty to condemn the slaying.

We are conscious that appeals in behalf of upholding the law might seem to involve some inconsistency themselves if they express an opinion about a case which is pending before the law—as this paper did in its original comment on the slaying—and if they express criticism of a formal action by a Grand Jury acting in due order under the law.

But as for the case that was pending, as we previously sought to make clear, our comment was not made in an endeavor to guide the action of the law but rather in seeking to discharge what we conceived to be our duty to that public opinion which underlies the law. We do not believe that support should be given even by no more than silence to the sentiment that certain law violations, under certain conditions, are in effect outside the law.

And in commenting on the action of the Grand Jury, we act in no spirit of disrespect but simply in the profound belief that completed actions of the law itself are proper subject for temperate, conscientious comment.

We do not regard the operation of the law or the law itself as perfect. We do not claim that the application of the letter of the law in every kind of case assures justice. The law is not sufficiently prescient and wise to provide precisely for every contingency. It is possible that many considerations, outside a literal reading of the law, would have to be faced in the dispensation of true justice in handling the case of the father. It is possible, too, that a Grand Jury acting in the name of the law can make a mistake.

But we do insist that there is the gravest danger to the whole body and

spirit of the law in establishing precedents for or encouraging a public belief that certain actions may be regarded as outside the law.

When such a philosophy is impressively advanced by the law itself, as seems to have been done in this case, a clear duty of protest would seem to lie on all those who see far-reaching threats in such a philosophy. Such a condonation might be variously construed in many conceivable types of cases as a license of a sort for the law to be taken into personal hands.

While we would not seem to exaggerate the number of such cases of provocation to go outside the law that are likely to develop, for they will be comparatively few, still it must be apparent to thoughtful persons that this whole question is closely involved still, as it has been for many years, with that other very important problem of racial relations with which the South has been making such excellent progress.

The case of the father was indeed passed on under the due processes of the law. But, in our profoundly concerned opinion, justice would have made a better showing for itself if it had been extended through a public hearing in open court.

The Age-Herald has no doubt that in expressing these earnest convictions it is going counter to a widespread—probably a majority—sentiment. Indeed, it is the very wide extent of the feeling and opinion which we challenge to reconsideration that greatly influences us in our own conclusion that our duty compels us to express our own honest and strongly opposing view.

New Grand Jury Sift Of Negro's Slaying Asked

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 8. (P)—A new Grand Jury investigation of the slaying of a negro prisoner in the courthouse here May 11 was sought today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

W. S. Shortridge, local association chairman, said he asked Circuit Judge E. M. Creel to direct the jury's attention to the shooting of John Louis Smith, young negro, a few minutes after his conviction on charges of carnal knowledge of a minor child.

H. E. Colburn, father of the child in the case, was charged with murder in a warrant sworn by officers immediately after the shooting, but was released after a Grand Jury returned a no bill after making an investigation

NEGRO TRIES TO HIT OFFICER, IS KILLED

Street Fight Causes Death,

Sends Two To Jail

Shot twice in the abdomen by Patrolman W. F. Mitchell, Senior Ramsey, 34-year-old Negro of 121 10th-st, n, lay dead today. Two other Negroes were held in City Jail in connection with an investigation of a fight Saturday afternoon.

On arriving at 10th-st and First-avenue, n, Patrolman Mitchell and his partner J. E. Carnes said they found Ramsey and a Negro woman, 19-year-old Marie Gray, 109 10th-st, n, fighting in the street. As the pair was being placed in the police car, a third Negro, identified as Ramsey's half-brother, Abraham Lockett, 39, of 121 10th-st, n, approached and struck Officer Carnes with his fist, causing him to drop his pistol, the officers said.

As Officer Carnes grappled with Lockett, Ramsey is said to have attempted to strike the struggling officer with a brick. At this point Officer Mitchell opened fire, striking Ramsey twice in the abdomen.

Ramsey died several hours later in Hillman Hospital. Detectives O. F. Osborne and A. C. McGuire arrested Lockett, charged him with assault and battery aggravated and interfering with an officer in line of duty. Officers Carnes and Mitchell jailed the woman on disorderly conduct charges.

Smith was slain in the courthouse corridor a few minutes after a jury had fixed his punishment at 99 years in the penitentiary. Carnal knowledge is a capital offense in Alabama.

Huntsville, Ala., Times
July 8, 1938

ASK NEW PROBE ABOUT SLAYING

Negro Association Petitions Grand Jury Investigation

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Murder or Lynching?

ON May 11th John Lewis Smith, a 16-year-old boy was convicted by a Birmingham jury of having committed a capital crime and sentenced to 99 years in prison. On his way from the court room to jail in the custody of officers, Smith was shot and killed by one H. E. Colburn, acting in a spirit of revenge. The killer was arrested and temporarily detained, but in due course a grand jury refused to indict him. That ended the drama, but it left one question unanswered. Under the circumstances surrounding the killing of John Lewis Smith constitute a murder in the ordinary sense, or a lynching in the sense that lynch murders are regarded in some parts of the South?

There is nothing unusual about the failure of a grand jury to indict for certain types of murders in some sections of the South, but it is unusual for the murderer to go free when the killing takes place in a corridor of a court house, while the victim is in the custody of law officers.

We turn the question over to the several authorities who compile lynching statistics. We are not so sure that Alabama has not registered the first and only lynching for 1938.

July 9, 1938

New Grand Jury Sift Of Negro's Slaying Asked

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., July 8.—(AP)—A new Grand Jury investigation of the slaying of a negro prisoner in the courthouse here May 11 was sought today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

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Birmingham, Ala., News
August 20, 1938

Birmingham's Progress In Reducing Homicides

For some years, until comparatively recently, Birmingham was known as "the murder capital of the nation." This was the most unfortunate distinction that the city ever had.

In the last few years there has been a steady reduction in the number of homicides in Birmingham, and the city not only has moved out of first place but has dropped down the list until it now stands tenth in the nation in number of murders and non-negligent homicides. This has just been reported by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington on the basis of figures for the three-month period from April to June, inclusive.

This is gratifying progress, and it is to be hoped that it will continue. For, even though it is in tenth place, Birmingham still has a disproportionately large number of homicides.

Better law enforcement is largely responsible for the decline. Particularly among Negroes, who accounted for so many of the homicides here, has stronger enforcement of the law been helpful. At the same time, Negro leaders have done excellent work in curbing tendencies toward violence among members of their race by constant teaching and preaching.

Canty Lawyers Ask New Trial Rap Detectives

Reputed Statements By

Dennison, Chancellor

Paraded Before Cour

Hearing on motion for a new trial for Dave Canty, local negro, convicted last May for the murder of Miss Eunice Ward, school nurse, was begun yesterday morning before Judge Eugene W. Carter of Circuit Court, when defense counsel introduced a witness who said he overheard City Detective Chancellor tell Chief of Detectives Paul Rapport while the trial was in progress that "we gave him hell."

Intimation by Canty's attorneys yesterday morning he thought 90 per cent of the people who have interviewed themselves in the case thought Canty was cruelly beaten by Dennison and Chancellor. The attorney said prior to his purported confession, the witness was Robert Tharp, who he overheard the conversation the night he interviewed him at the head of the stairs leading to the courtroom. Before he was put on the stand Canty's counsel read an affidavit which Tharp had made relating to the conversation between the police officers. When questioned by Solicitor W. T. Seibels, Mr. Tharp said he did not know whether the "we gave him hell" statement had reference to beating and coercing Canty into making a confession, or whether the officer was referring to parts of the State's evidence during the trial that day.

Given Death Sentence
Canty was given the death sentence after the jury deliberated for about two hours. The sentence, however, was suspended when his lawyers served notice of an appeal.

Tharp, who said he had been summoned at the trial as a witness for Canty, told the judge his only interest in the case was "to promote the truth." He testified that Detective Chancellor showed him a copy of the purported confession during the conversation at the stairway.

Chief Rapport, on the stand briefly at the informal hearing, said he could not remember seeing Mr. Tharp outside the courtroom or anywhere else that day, nor did he recall discussing the case with City Detective Chancellor and Dennison outside the courtroom as he was leaving the building.

But Mr. Chancellor said he was positive he did not see Tharp at the stairway. He also denied having any such conversation with Rapport, Dennison or any other member of the police department outside the courtroom. The officer said he was locked up as a witness in another case practically all day.

Another point for the grounds for a new trial centered around the testimony of Detective Dennison. Mr. Chancellor's partner, Canty's counsel insisted that Dennison, by his own statement on the stand, threatened

the negro into signing a confession.

But Solicitor Seibels argued that "not a hand was laid on Canty" before the confession, nor was any other form of coercion or intimidation resorted to by the police. He also denied that the negro had failed to receive a fair trial. "I believe You Honor leaned backwards to give this defendant a fair trial," the Solicitor said. He predicted the Supreme Court would uphold the judge's ruling on every point of law.

Ed Wadsworth, senior counsel for Canty, completed his argument and Mr. Seibels spoke briefly before Atty Alex Birch began presenting other phases of the case. Lunch-time arrived before he had finished and the hearing was recessed until Wednesday.

Beating Claimed
Throughout the trial of Canty, his attorneys sought to show to the jury that the negro had been beaten into making a confession. Canty also told the jury during the trial he signed the confession under duress.

Atty. Birch told Judge Carter yesterday morning he thought 90 per cent of the people who have interviewed themselves in the case thought Canty was cruelly beaten by Dennison and Chancellor. The attorney said prior to his purported confession, the witness was Robert Tharp, who he overheard the conversation the night he interviewed him at the head of the stairs leading to the courtroom. Before he was put on the stand Canty's counsel read an affidavit which Tharp had made relating to the conversation between the police officers. When questioned by Solicitor W. T. Seibels, Mr. Tharp said he did not know whether the "we gave him hell" statement had reference to beating and coercing Canty into making a confession, or whether the officer was referring to parts of the State's evidence during the trial that day.

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Tait's Slayer Shot Dead By Negro Trusty

Wilcox County Fugitive

Is Finally Brought To

Bay In Perry Cornfield

Betrayed By A Tip

Kilby Lifer Doing Duty As

Dog Boy Exonerated By

Hasty Coroner's Inquest

Jonas Martin, 38, negro desperado, hunted for the murder of Deputy Sheriff Goode Tait, of Wilcox County, was brought to bay and shot to death by a member of his own race early yesterday afternoon in a Perry County cornfield. Martin was slain by a charge of buckshot from a sawed-off shotgun fired by Frank ("Buck") Porter, Kilby lifer doing duty as dog boy.

Holding the leash attached to the trail dogs from Kilby that were following Martin's line of flight at a rapid pace, Porter was running ahead of accompanying officers when the dogs suddenly came upon their quarry who was hiding in a drainage ditch. Springing from the ditch, Martin who is described as a man of extraordinary physical strength, nearly six feet tall and weighing all of 200 pounds, savagely attacked the "dog boy." The latter, himself of large muscular build, proved a worthy antagonist. Standing his ground he met the other's charge, and they grappled.

First advice to reach here yesterday of the running to earth and killing of Martin, was received by Capt. Potter Smith of the State Highway

Patrol in a long-distance telephone conversation with Sergt. Carlisle, who later returned to Montgomery and made a detailed report to his superior of what occurred.

Officers Got Tip
Early yesterday morning, Capt. Smith received a telephone call from Patrol Officer Jones, stationed at Selma, who said Martin, whose trail had been temporarily lost by posses, had been located. He had received a "tip" he stated, that Martin had been seen a short while before at the house of another negro in the Suttle community of Perry County, near Felix; going there from some nearby woods where he had spent the night, to demand breakfast. He said he had notified county officers and he and Officer Tatum proposed to proceed there at once.

Capt. Smith told them to leave for the scene immediately, stating he would send other patrolmen to join them as quickly as he could get them on the road. Sergt. Carlisle and Officers Williamson, Nolen, Donaldson, Whitby and Kreis, were contacted in Montgomery and surrounding towns and dispatched at once. Sergt. Grubbs and Officers McVay and Meadows were sent from points further South.

Completing these instructions, Capt. Smith communicated with Warden Frank Boswell at Kilby Prison a request he had in the meantime received from Sheriff Wilkerson of Perry and Sheriff Albritton of Wilcox for the use of the trail dogs at Kilby, which Warden Boswell soon had on their way in a light truck, accompanied by Dog Warden William DeBardelaban, and the "dog-boy," Porter.

Justifiable Homicide
Sergt. Carlisle said that after the shooting, Sheriff C. A. Wilkerson, of Perry County, summoned Coroner J. A. Bice, who impaneled a coroner's jury which exonerated the "dog boy," Porter, rendering a verdict of "justifiable homicide."

An offer to turn Martin's body over to his mother was refused by her, it was said, and it was taken in charge by Sheriff A. L. Albritton, of Wilcox County, for burial.

Martin who had a criminal record is reputed to have had the reputation among members of his race as a "bully" and was greatly feared by other negroes residing in the Miller's Ferry Community of Wilcox County, of which he was a native. His slayer, Porter, Kilby "dog-boy," was convicted in Mobile in 1932 of killing two other negro men, and was sentenced to death. At a clemency hearing he pleaded self-defense, and former Gov. B. M. Miller commuted the sentence to life imprisonment.

It is customary, it was learned, in hunting escaped convicts or other fugitives with the Kilby trail dogs, for the dog warden, in cases where the hunted person is known to be or believed to be armed, to permit the "dog-boy" in actual charge of the dogs and running ahead of the dog warden, to carry a weapon temporarily. This, it was said, explained why Porter was armed with a sawed-off shot-gun when he encountered Martin in the corn-field.

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Fugitive's Undoing

Sergt. Carlisle said when he and his fellow patrol officers reached the Suttle's community, they were told that Martin whose wife lived there, had appeared at the home of a negro on the Suttle plantation early yesterday morning, after hiding during the night in some nearby woods, and after demanding and receiving breakfast, had made the further demand that his host send a son with a note to his, Martin's, wife, asking her to meet him. That demand also was complied with by the Suttle tenant who managed, however, to talk to the boy long enough unseen by his unwelcome guest, to tell him instead of delivering the note that he was to go to the plantation owner, notify him where Martin was and ask him to "tell the law." The boy carried out his father's instructions and "the law" was promptly notified.

State and county officers approached the house cautiously, but were seen by Martin who, taking alarm, fled through a rear window of the house. Officers saw him leap from the window and opened fire, but the fugitive managed to reach unscathed a nearby cornfield covering many acres.

By that time other patrol officers had arrived, also the sheriffs of Wilcox and Perry with a force of deputies, and a squad of policemen and Sheriff Sam A. Reynolds and a party of deputies from Selma. A cordon was quickly thrown around a wide area, roads were temporarily

blocked to traffic, and at a given signal, the officers began closing in. In the Wilcox County cornfield, the "dog-boy," Porter, was seen to work the "trusty" portly porter who was following Martin. Porter was attacked by Martin and Sheriff Tait was killed during the struggle. Porter fled on the officer's approach into some nearby woods, shot through the forehead. Deputy Sheriff Tait was killed during the struggle. Porter fled on the officer's approach into some nearby woods, shot through the forehead.

Original Crime

Deputy Sheriff Tait was killed during the struggle.

Killings—1938

Arkansas.

OMISSION OF White Woman Killed In Plantation TITLE COSTS Fight; Negro Tenant To Die MAN HIS LIFE

legend
GREGORY, Ark., March 4 — Horace Nicholas, 48, died in a local hospital Thursday 21 years in prison by a white Feb. 24, of a gunshot wound jury Tuesday. Sentence will be ap- in the abdomen inflicted by pealed.

Earl Rogers, white youth.
The dead woman was Mrs. John A. Roberts shot Nicholas Wednes- Deaver. On Sept. 8, her husband, day, Feb. 23, because the elderly manager of a plantation near Rose man failed to say "mister" in re- City, instructed her to dock the sponding to a question from the brothers three pounds of cotton per sack for picking "dirty" cotton. An youth.

Events leading up to the shooting argument developed, according to it was learned, concerned use of a Rome, and the white man drew a gun boat belonging to the youth, by the with which he threatened to shoot the victim whose home was threatened the two workers and harm their by high water during present rise of the White river.

To carry his belongings to safety Mose struggled with Deaver in an Nicholas removed them from his attempt to take the pistol and in the cabin and placed them in the boat scuffle the gun went off, killing Mrs. after which he paddled across Cache Deaver, Rome said. His testimony bayou. It had been the custom for was corroborated by Mose. him to use the boat at times in re- turn for little services he often ren- dered Rogers.

Falls Into River

But Thursday, as Nicholas was about to step from the craft after returning it to the dock, Rogers, standing nearby asked why the boat was used without his permission. According to a witness, Nicholas re- plied: "Earl, I didn't think you'd mind my using it, especially in a case like this."

The witness said that Rogers then became enraged and shouted: "Did- n't I tell you once before to always put a handle to my name?" Without awaiting reply Rogers drew a pistol from his jacket pocket and fired.

As the bullet struck Nicholas he fell out of the boat into the river from which he was immediately dragged by Walter White, his son-in- law who witnessed the shooting.

The victim is survived by a wid- ow, Mrs. Frances Nicholas, and a daughter, Mrs. Sada Mae White.

LITTLE ROCK, Dec. 30—(ANP) —

Because a white woman was killed in a fight between two brothers and an overseer on a plantation Rome Bone was given the death penalty and his brother, Mose, was sentenced to serve 21 years in prison by a white jury Tuesday. Sentence will be ap- pealed.

12-30-38
The dead woman was Mrs. John A. Roberts shot Nicholas Wednes- Deaver. On Sept. 8, her husband, day, Feb. 23, because the elderly manager of a plantation near Rose man failed to say "mister" in re- City, instructed her to dock the sponding to a question from the brothers three pounds of cotton per sack for picking "dirty" cotton. An youth.

Mose struggled with Deaver in an attempt to take the pistol and in the scuffle the gun went off, killing Mrs. Deaver, Rome said. His testimony was corroborated by Mose.

The overseer, however, told the court that Mose jumped off a truck after hearing the docking order and knocked him down. He then took "deliberate aim with a gun and shot his wife. His story was substantiat- ed by two small white boys who claimed they saw the incident. The jury deliberated only 15 minutes be- fore reaching a verdict.

The brothers were represented by Scipio Jones, prominent lawyer, and F. W. A. Eirmann, white, who said they would appeal.

Killings-1938

California

NO COLORED ON JURIES,
MAN GETS NEW TRIAL
SACRAMENTO, Calif. (ANP)
—The district court here has
granted a new trial for Luther
Hines, who was convicted of
second-degree murder on the
grounds that colored people have
been denied jury service.

KILLINGS-1938

FLORIDA

Fla. Frames Three Lads To Death

12-29-38

Following Beatings And
Forced Confessions

New York, Dec. 29 (CNA).—
National headquarters of the
International Labor Defense
here this week announced that
it had received a telegram from
its Florida division that three
Negro lads—two aged 15 and
one aged 16—had been railroad-
ed to a death sentence follow-
ing beatings and forced "con-
fessions."

The telegram, sent by Mar-
garet Bailey, secretary of the
Florida ILD, read:

"Three Jacksonville Negro
boys, the oldest 16 and two aged
15, were sentenced today to be
electrocuted for an alleged hold-
up killing. Claim they were
brutally beaten and forced into
confessions."

"The court appointed as coun-
sel Harry Silva, who made no
acquittal move or retrial mo-
tion."

The Florida defense organiza-
tion urged protest wires to Gov.
David Cone at Tallahassee.
Judge Miles Lewis and Mayor
Blum, both of Jacksonville.

The state of Georgia last week
electrocuted six Negroes in the
biggest mass execution in Geor-
gia's history, while a white man
also sentenced to die, was grant-
ed a last minute reprieve.

The six executed men were
convicted in the murders of
four white adults. The reprieved
man was convicted of killing a
baby born as a result of inces-
tuous relations with his daugh-
ter.

Killings - 1938

Miami, Fla. Herald
January 2, 1938

Misleading

WE may agree with the special investigator of the so-called American Civil Liberties Union and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that there is opportunity for and necessity of measures to be taken to make the lives of colored people of the city more comfortable and happy, but we utterly disagree with that same individual investigator in his assertions that the rights of Miami's colored people are ignored by our people or that the courts are prejudiced against them.

In all its history Miami has been reasonably careful of the rights of our colored citizens. There never has been an occasion when any honest investigator could truthfully say that there has been serious racial tension arising from misunderstandings between the two races.

There have been occasional incidents where wrong has been inflicted upon individuals of the negro race, incidents that have been deplored where white people have been involved, just as they have occurred, unfortunately, in other cities of the country.

The Dames case, which has been the especial subject of investigation of the association, named, through a special agent, was one of those unfortunate events. Police officers shot and killed a young negro boy under the impression that he had been engaged in a robbery and who was killed while attempting to escape from arrest.

Now this special, and individual investigator, reports to his organization, charging the officers with culpability, recommending that suits be brought against them and, furthermore, indicting the chief of police of the city for incompetency.

It should be remembered that both the coroner's jury and a Dade county grand jury exonerated the officers involved and we are asked to take the testimony of a single individual who made his investigation after the event against the testimony submitted to both bodies by reputable witnesses under oath.

The report is misleading, will cause harm to this city and especially to the colored people of Miami and will not lessen any of the tension said to exist between the two races—if any such tension exists.

Miami, Fla. Herald
January 1, 1938

RACIAL TENSION IN MIAMI CITED

Quigg's Removal Asked By Civil Liberties Union Investigator

Warning that repressive acts against negroes here have contributed to "a racial tension which is unparalleled" and that "if conditions grow worse between the races a social explosion is likely to occur," Frank McCallister, St. Petersburg, Fla., special investigator, recommended to the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People yesterday that—

1. Civil suits be prosecuted against the three Miami policemen involved in the killing of Stafford G. Dames, jr., 19-year-old altar boy, on July 27;
2. Demands be made for the discharge of the policemen from the Miami police force, and the city of Miami be requested to displace Police Chief H. Leslie Quigg, by a chief of police "better fitted to handle the delicate race problem."
3. A strong branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People be established "to defend the civil rights of negroes;"
4. "Negro workers be urged to join trade unions in order to raise their wage scale and thus improve their standard of living and environment."

Mr. McCallister's recommendations were contained in a blistering report on the Dames killing submitted to the Civil Liberties Union and the National Association, in the course of which he cited the exoneration of the police officers by a coroner's jury and later by a grand jury. He termed the exoneration as a "thorough job of

Dames Killing Report Made

Mr. McCallister's recommendations were contained in a blistering report on the Dames killing submitted to the Civil Liberties Union and the National Association, in the course of which he cited the exoneration of the police officers by a coroner's jury and later by a grand jury. He termed the exoneration as a "thorough job of

'whitewashing' done by the authorities."

Dames was shot in front of his home near N. W. Fifth avenue and Fourteenth street by Sergeant Fred Bratt and Policemen R. B. Simpson and W. S. Scott, after he allegedly was chased out of the Orthodox Church at N. W. Third court and Fourth street. The police charged that Dames, altar boy at the church, had entered the church to rob it.

Although recommending in his report the civil prosecution of the police officers, Mr. McCallister appended the comment of William G. Fennell, attorney who made an analysis of the evidence, to the effect that such action should be taken "not with any thought that a judgment obtained could be collected, but because careless policemen deserve warning of consequences which may result if they continue to be careless." The special investigator specifically recommended that "criminal action should not be considered because the judicial set-up is prejudiced in the case in favor of the cops."

Gaps in Evidence Assailed

In his conclusions, Mr. Fennell hammered at several apparent gaps in the evidence obtained by the police. Thus he pointed out that— "...an autopsy of Stafford's body and the recovery of the bullet, and a ballistic comparison with the gun produced at the inquest might have produced interesting evidence. In fact, why was not an attempt made to find some bullets from the gun of the fugitive who fired at the police near the church, and these compared to the gun alleged to have been found on Stafford?..."

And again— "Although the police sergeant took down the numbers of the gun, no evidence was introduced to show that the police checked the sale of the gun and the registered owner."

And finally— "The fugitive must have eluded the police, and on coming to Fourteenth terrace and Fourth street the police mistakenly thought Stafford was the fugitive and shot him."

Conditions in Miami Cited

Commenting that "the mere fact that a coroner's inquest and grand jury cleared the policemen of guilt does not mean that they are innocent," Mr. McCallister observed that "a report such as Mr. Fennell's is more likely to contain a truthful opinion." Then, branching out into a general indictment of race conditions in Miami, the Civil Liberties Union investigator sketched in his report the following picture:

"In order to understand how such a condition can exist, it is necessary to examine the economic and social conditions existing in Miami where

the slaying occurred.

"According to reputable Miami observers, both white and colored, when a negro goes into the courts or before official bodies, the cards are nearly always stacked against him. ... Whenever police officers are involved their testimony is invariably taken at face value although it may be challenged at every point by reputable and law-abiding negro citizens."

"Thus, in the Dames case the police testimony was obviously accepted, although completely refuted by a score or more of negro witnesses."

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
January 1, 1938

Liberties Union Asks Prosecution Of Miami Police

MIAMI, Dec. 31. — (A.P.) — An American Civil Liberties union representative recommended today that civil suits be prosecuted against the three policemen involved in the killing of Stafford Dames, negro altar boy, and that demand be made for the replacement of Police Chief H. Leslie Quigg.

The investigator, Frank McCallister of St. Petersburg, said in a report to the union and to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that various repressive acts against negroes here had contributed to "a racial tension which is unparalleled" and that "if conditions grows worse between the races a social explosion is likely to occur."

Negro Captive Charged With Killing Officer

PENSACOLA, FLA., Aug. 25. — (A.P.) — Sheriff H. E. Gandy said today he had arrested a negro named Ben Davis at Uriah, Ala., on a charge of slaying Special Officer W. A. Bowman here last Friday.

The sheriff said he had taken the negro to an undisclosed jail for safe-keeping. The special officer was killed while returning a negro residence during a theft investigation.

The accused negro was brought here yesterday afternoon and deposited in Key Prison for safe-keeping. A detachment of Alabama Highway Patrolmen was dispatched to Florida to accompany Gandy in maintaining safe conduct for the negro as he was whisked away. Sheriff Gandy and deputies returned to Florida almost immediately.

To Argue Before Fla. Court In Effort To Save Lives Of Four

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—For the fifth time, the Supreme Court of Florida will listen to oral arguments by lawyers next month in an endeavor to save the lives of Zell Chambers, Charlie Davis, Walter Woodward and Jack Williamson. These four Negro lads were tried back in 1933 in the Circuit Court of Broward County, Florida, for the alleged murder of Robert Dorcey, a white

After sentences of death were passed upon them they were rushed to Raiford, where all of Florida's criminals are now executed. It was in August 1933 when they were in the very shadow of death and about to take their final walk to the chair of death when counsel of their own race were employed. An appeal was immediately taken to the Supreme Court of Florida which stopped the quadruple execution which was about to take place—the first ever to be carried out in the history of Florida.

S. D. McGill of the Jacksonville Florida Bar as just been notified by the Supreme Court that oral arguments will be heard on October 20th. Counsel for the accused believes that finally the death sentence will be set aside and vacated. These cases which have at times been tried under machine guns to ward off lynchers, have become known as Florida's Little Scottsboro Cases because of their similarity to those cases, the defendants being compelled by threats of mob violence and beatings and other brutalities covering a whole week before they confessed to the murder which they now claim they never committed.

MIAMI STIRRED OVER SLAYING BY 'QUICK-TRIGGER' OFFICER

MIAMI, March 11—(Exclusive to the Defender)—This usually peaceful Florida city was stirred from quiet slumber Sunday morning when three shots echoed from down by the railroad tracks, leaving John Hepburn dead in the wake of the slaying, termed a "wanton homicide" by many citizens, followed strong protests against Officer Schoolboy who has figured in four slayings since he joined the force fresh out of high school.

Hepburn, along with other men, were gambling at a private home on Twelfth Street near W. First court, when Officers Gussner and Schoolboy made a raid. The men made a break to escape. Schoolboy it was reported, began chasing Hepburn and firing. The first shot landed in Hepburn's leg, but the youth continued his flight limping down the railroad tracks until another bullet in the leg brought him down.

Rushing up to the wounded youth, Officer Schoolboy is reported to have fired a third bullet into Hepburn's heart, killing him instantly.

Coral Gables Negro

Kills Police Sergeant

CORAL GABLES, FLA., June 6—(AP)—A negro fatally wounded Police Sergeant H. C. Barton, 37, with a shotgun today.

More than a dozen officers finally subdued the negro, Frazell McClain, 38, after he used the shotgun as a bludgeon to knock out the windows of his home to demolish furniture.

Barton came here from Birmingham, Ala., and joined the Coral Gables police force in 1928. He leaves a wife and daughter.

Klan Invades Negro Service at Miami Church

MIAMI, Fla., Oct. 18.—The Rev. T. H. Gibson of St. Mary's Baptist Church reported today a group of men representing themselves as Ku Klux Klansmen invaded his church last night where a Negro chorus was participating in a revival service.

The chorus sang its scheduled numbers and then went to a broadcasting studio for a program.

General.

Killings-1938

Anderson, S. C., Independent Trip.
March 13, 1938

THIS EXPLAINS IT

Why is it that the South has such a great deal larger homicide rate than the North?

The negro population has been blamed, but there are those who insist that the negro population is not so much to blame as is the failure of southern cities properly to police the negro sections of their cities and the failure of some southern courts to consider negro killings seriously.

Killings - 1938
6

Georgia

Cofer Brothers Hold Big Amusement Interests on Old Saint Simons Island



Telegraph 10-30-38
MOST RECENT and largest of the St. Simons island resort properties acquired by the Cofer brothers, held in the Brunswick jail in connection with the slaying of Dr. Charles H. Lee, is shown above. The new Golden Isles Hotel and the adjoining casino were recently completed. Macon Police Chief Ben T. Watkins said the brothers between them owned the "majority" of the "hot spots" of the resorts. Watkins said a great part of their business was operation of gambling machines and dealing in liquor, illegal in Georgia at the time Dr. Lee was shot Feb. 5. Watkins said a Negro's confession named the Cofers as the men who hired him to shoot the rector of Christ's church who was outspoken against vice.

Dougherty Slaying Confessed By Negro

Shep Bruno Implicates Companion, Both Held on Double-Murder Charges

Telegraph
ALBANY, Oct. 28 (AP)—Sheriff O. F. Tarver announced tonight a Negro identified as Shep Bruno, 50, had confessed participation in the shotgun slaying last September of Walton Moree, 33, a Worth county farmer, and Mrs. Ernest Aultman, wife of a Dougherty county farmer. He said Bruno implicated another Negro listed as Chafus Peoples, 40, and claimed the latter fired the shots.

Both, he said, were charged with murder and removed today to an unnamed jail. *10-29-38*

The bodies of Moree and Mrs. Aultman were found in a little used country road Sunday morning, Sept. 18, a mile and a half west of Albany. "Bruno said he and Peoples got \$14.50 off the bodies of the victims," Sheriff Tarver asserted. "He said he took \$3.50 from a pocketbook belonging to the woman and Peoples got the balance out of the man's pocket."

Sheriff Tarver said Peoples denied any connection with the slayings and added: "I am not certain yet he had the gun, anything to do with it."

He added he arrested Peoples about 18 miles from Perry, Ga., after he had been implicated by Bruno. Peoples, he said, left Albany about a week ago to take a truck driving job.

Sheriff Tarver said he got possession of the gun a few weeks after the murder. He also picked up two empty shotgun shells near the bodies after their discovery. "I sent both the shotgun and the shells to Washington, and got a report both shells had been fired from the gun," the sheriff said.



GEORGE CLEYBORN (left) who confessed to officers that he participated in the slaying of Dr. Lee, has repudiated the confession. In the confession, police said, Cleyborn named Willie Green (at right) as the one who fired the fatal bullet. Chief Ben T. Watkins of Macon, who guided the investigation of the slaying, said he had expected a repudiation of the confession which named Henry J. and W. F. Cofer, resort operators, as the men who employed the Negroes to kill the churchman. (Telegraph State Photos).

Tarver was assisted in the investigation by Bill Rolla of Albany and D. C. Campbell, his chief deputy.

Resort Owners Paid For Job, Police Told

Macon Officers and Private Investigator Co-operate in Solving Crime

Two St. Simons Island "big shots of the small rackets" and two Negroes named by Police Chief Ben T. Watkins as their "trigger-men," are in jails today charged with the murder of Rector Charles H. Lee of Christ Church.

Dr. Lee, Chief Watsons said, was too militant in his attitude on heavy drink and gambling to suit the Cofer brothers so they had him liquidated in Big Time racketeering fashion.

One of the two Negroes named by the Macon chief as George Cleyborn, confessed participating in the shooting and named the Cofers as his employers.

The Cofers, owners of a "majority" of the "hot spots" of the moss hung St. Simons vacation-land, were listed by the chief as Henry J. Cofer and W. H. Cofer. The second Negro, named by Cleyborn as the one who fired the fatal shot, is known to officers only as "Willie" or "Loonie."

Woman Gives Tip

Following the big time rackets pattern even further, Watkins revealed that the tip of a Macon woman supplied him and his investigators with the lead which led directly to the breaking of the case.

The woman is Mrs. Carrie Stevens, who with her husband, were found breaking into the one of Henry Cofer's night spots the chief said. That was only two days after Dr. Lee was felled by a shot through the window of his rectory as he was putting finishing touches on his next day's sermon.

Chief Watkins said he worked with the prison commission and secured her a parole to John Lowe, private Macon investigator, who came to police with a hint of Lee case knowledge told him by the 23-year-old girl's mother, Mrs. Walter R. McCoy of Macon. In exchange for her freedom, Mrs. Stevens talked freely of her knowledge of the Lee case.

Police Chief J. E. Register of Brunswick quoted Cleyborn as reporting he fired one shot from outside the rectory window and missed. The rector moved about and then returned to his place. Cleyborn told officers "Willie" then said, "give me that gun" and fired the shot that killed Dr. Lee.

Given \$150, Says Negro

The police chief said Cleyborn related that Henry Cofer gave him \$150 and the pistol to kill the clergyman and that W. H. Cofer hired "Willie" to help. He said he did not know what "Willie" was paid. The pistol, Cleyborn said, was returned to Henry Cofer.

the second shot was fired. Investigations by officers indicated two shots apparently had been fired into the home from a .38 caliber pistol by a man standing at the corner of a garage outside the window. The two passed through a screen and the window glass within a space of about six inches. One lodged in the wall. The second smashed into the clergyman's temple, emerged through the left ear and ranged through the walls of two rooms. No weapon or empty cartridges were found as clues but officers located the slugs and sent them to Washington for ballistics examinations.

Rewards Offered

Chief Register said Cleyborn told him that after the two Negroes killed the minister, they ran through the woods to the Negro quarters of the island and that he went home to bed.

Investigators searched the area after the slaying but found only rain-washed footprints which they were able to trace about an eighth of a mile toward the public amusement pier before they were lost.

Rewards of \$1,500 for the killer were offered by state, county and Sea Island citizens without success.

Chairman R. A. Gould of the Glynn county commission at the time expressed belief the outspoken Dr. Lee was slain by someone bearing him a grudge, possibly because of his sometimes gruff comment on the acts of those he regarded as wrongdoers. G. C. Durand, headmaster of Sea Island school said Dr. Lee had been greatly disturbed over what he felt were serious vice conditions in Glynn county of which St. Simons is a part.

Dr. Lee was born in West Virginia, a second cousin of General Robert E. Lee. He entered the ministry in 1893 after teaching school here briefly. He served in parishes in Virginia, Ohio, Tennessee and Macon before coming to Christ church.

Three Of Five Negroes Get Death Sentences

JACKSON, GA., Nov. 9.—(P)—Three of five negroes accused of the slaying October 25 of Police Chief Charles T. Thornton were convicted of murder today by a Superior Court jury and sentenced to die in the electric chair.

The trio was listed as Charlie Rucker, Raymond Carter and Jim Henry Williams. The other two accused, booked as Lucas and Mattie Atkins, will be tried tomorrow. Solicitor General Frank B. W. Graham said.

Chief Thornton was shot through the ear when he approached a group of negroes on a back street and challenged them. Sheriff G. H. Thurston of Butts County testified one of the five accused admitted he fired a shot in an altercation with the chief.

The jury deliberated twenty minutes.

Negro Doomed To Die

For Double Slaying

MARIETTA, GA., Nov. 14.—(P)—Will Russell, negro, was sentenced today to death in the electric chair for the dual slaying which stirred racial outbreaks in nearby Smyrna.

A Superior Court jury deliberated an hour before convicting Russell of fatally beating George Camp, 65, and his 25-year-old daughter, Mrs. Christine Pauls, in their farm home October 16.

State patrolmen reinforced county officers at the trial but there was no recurrence of violence. Chief witness against the negro was Cecil Pauls, 9-year-old son of the slain woman, who was beaten at the time the adults were killed.

Mobs formed in Smyrna on two successive nights shortly after the killings. The negro was safe from lynching attempts in an Atlanta jail but the mob vented its wrath by burning a negro schoolhouse and by beating and abusing negroes taken from automobiles and trolley cars passing through Smyrna.

State patrolmen, city police and county officers quelled the disturbances. Twenty-six men arrested after the outbreaks await grand jury action.

Atlanta, Ga. Georgian
November 9, 1938

Cobb Grand Jury Probes Mystery Death of Ward

MARIETTA, Ga., Nov. 9.—Investigation of the mysterious shooting that resulted in the death of W. A. Ward, 24-year-old Mariettan, was undertaken by a Cobb grand jury Wednesday. Solicitor H. G. Vandivere said this morning.

Mr. Ward, an ex-wrestler, former Georgia Tech student and popular salesman of automobile supplies, died several days ago of a pistol wound that he said was sustained when a hitch-hiker shot him in an attempted robbery.

Among 22 witnesses subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury for the probe was Mrs. Harry Booth, wife of the proprietor of a Cobb County roadhouse, where Mr. Ward was reported seen several hours before the shooting.

Others called include the victim's mother, Mrs. J. C. Ward; his young wife, Mrs. W. A. Ward; Cicero Dollar, Marietta youth; Mayes Ward, Marietta undertaker and kinsman of the dead man and Bill Kelly, a WPA worker.

Willie Russell, negro construction worker living near Smyrna was indicted Tuesday afternoon by the Cobb grand jury and charged with the murder of G. W. Camp, aged Cobb farmer, and his daughter, Mrs. Christine Camp Pauls on October 16.

Young Cecil Pauls, 9-year-old son of Mrs. Pauls, was chief witness to appear before the jury. He related details of the murders, which were also reportedly confessed by the negro.

When investigations of racial disorders at Smyrna that followed in the wake of the double slaying of the farmer and his daughter will begin was not indicated by Mr. Vandivere.

Twenty-six Cobb County men, arrested in connection with the demonstrations, have been released on \$1,000 bonds.

Six Negro Youths Die In Georgia Electric Chair

REIDSVILLE, Ga. — Six young Negroes walked to the electric chair Friday and died in swift succession for the killing of three white men and a young mother. The executions were completed in 81 minutes from the time Willie Russell stepped into the death chamber at 11:00 until Raymond Carter was dead.

Russell was executed for killing George Camp and Mrs. Christine Pauls. Arthur Mack and Arthur Perry, who followed him to the chair, were convicted of killing Charles Helton of Columbus. The others, Jim Henry Williams, Charlie Rucker and Carter were sentenced for killing Police Chief C. T. Thornton.

Killings - 1938

Georgia

Arrest Alleged Mother Of New-Born Babe: Murderer

Police listed the death of a new-born infant as a felonious homicide Saturday, and arrested the alleged mother and grandmother as murderers. Few similar recorded cases could be recalled by local law enforcers. **37** Seventeen-year-old Marie Barnes of 565 Rhodes Street, N. W., and her grandmother, Mrs. Julia Stallings, 60, were booked on the murder charge after investigation. **38** According to arresting officers, information came to headquarters that a baby had disappeared soon after birth to the young Rhodes Street woman. Questioning the mother and her grandmother at length, police alleged they finally informed the baby had been buried in the back yard of the residence. The infant had been born alive, investigators were told. After digging into the earth, officers found the body and sent to a West-side undertaking parlor, pending an inquest. The grandmother reportedly said she aided the young mother to give birth to the infant on Saturday, May 7, and that it was buried Monday, May 9. Coroner's inquest over the infant's body will be held Monday 2 P. M. at the Hanley Ashby Street Funeral Home.

PEACEMAKER IS FATALLY WOUNDED

Five Bullets Fired, Two Taking Effect In Man's Chest OTHERS SHOT

Walking between and arguing man and his wife Friday night proved fatal to Tommie Mitchell, 33, of 31 1-2 Hilliard Street, SE.

According to police, Mrs. Peola Brown, of 82 Horton Street, SE, Apartment A, her husband had come in enraged with liquor. She said he secured a pistol and shot her when Mitchell, visiting in the apartment ran between them to prevent her being shot. Her husband, listed as Joe Brown, then reportedly shot Mitchell in the chest. Another witness present in the household sells the same account of the mishap. The victim was pronounced dead on arrival at Grady Hospital.

TWO OTHERS SHOT

Marshall H. Milner, 24, 419 Fidelity Drive, was admitted to Grady Hospital in serious condition Friday night, following an altercation with another man's wife. A J. H. Smith was being sought in the shooting, which left Milner suffer a gunshot wound of the right arm and kidney. The victim reportedly said she aided the young mother to give birth to the infant on Saturday, May 7, and that it was buried Monday, May 9. Coroner's inquest over the infant's body will be held Monday 2 P. M. at the Hanley Ashby Street Funeral Home.

George Eterhardt, 20, of 411 Martin Street, SE, was dismissed from Grady Hospital following treatment for a gunshot wound of the left hip late Friday night. Officers sought on "Hog Head," of Richardson Street address, whom Eterhardt said had threatened him during the day concerning missing whiskey.

Reported to have threatened several persons with a shotgun and to have shot several times, Joe Daniel, 26, of 20 1-2 Edgewood Avenue, was in custody city police. Daniel terrorized a Young Street section, police reported.

HOMICIDES RISE TO 38 FOLLOWING TUESDAY KILLING

Melvin Brown, 24, of 793 Welch Street, lay dead of a gunshot

wound of the abdomen Wednesday, the 38th colored killing of the current year. Wounded at 490 McDaniel Street, S.W., late Tuesday night, according to police reports. Brown died at an early morning hour. Arrested was Willie Henderson, 25, of the McDaniel Street address.

Police who answered the call Tuesday night were informed that Brown had tried to cut a Lucile James with a knife and had chased her to Henderson's house. After Brown allegedly broke into the house, Henderson is said to have told him not to come further or he would shoot him with the shotgun he was holding. Witnesses stated that Brown then lunged at Henderson with the knife and was shot. An ambulance rushed the wounded man to Grady where he died approximately three hours later, according to reports.

Suffering a gunshot wound of the thigh, reportedly inflicted Tuesday night, Wallace Martin, Jr. of 222 N. Ham Street, was resting fairly well at Grady hospital Wednesday. His assailant had not been listed by police.

MACON POLICE AIDE SHOT DEAD ON DUTY

Killer Is Slain by Fellow Officers; Chief's Life Threatened.

MACON, Ga., May 11.—(P)—Acting Chief of Detectives J. M. Dopson was shot and killed here at noon today and a negro, accused of firing the shot, also was shot by other officers.

The shooting occurred in an alley, less than a block from police headquarters, where Dopson, Detective J. L. McSwain, and others were answering a police call. As McSwain got out of the car, a negro with a rifle opened fire.

The car was riddled with bullets. Dopson was shot in the back and slumped over the wheel dying.

The negro, listed as Max Josey, died after reaching the hospital. Police said he was shot by Motorcycle Officer Ben Ong and Coun-

ty Officer Walter Waldron, who also responded to the police radio call.

Josey, the officers said, had leveled his automatic 30-30 rifle at Police Chief Ben T. Watkins when

WIDE CRIME WAVE HITS ATLANTA

2 Shot, Four Stabbed In Short Period Of Time, Police Say

2 NEAR DEATH

Tuesday night and Wednesday morning constituted one of the greatest short periods of violence outside of customary week-end crime the Atlanta police department has known this year.

Two pistol and four stab cases left several victims at Grady suffering serious wounds.

Toy Pistol Shooting?

Admitted to Grady Hospital early Wednesday morning with a gun-shiner, known only as "Buck", had shot wound of the abdomen, Lewis Harper, 31, of 510 Houston Street, N. E., was considered in serious condition. Shot at the corner of Fort and Houston Streets, Harper was rushed to Grady Hospital while his assailant fled and waited for police.

Ras Brown, 64, of 382 1-2 Auburn Avenue, N. E., who admitted shooting Harper told arriving officers that he shot Harper when a pistol in the latter's hand had been snapped at him. He said Harper had hailed him and requested him to take him some place in his automobile. Brown stated he told Harper that he wasn't running a taxi, whereupon the wounded man allegedly followed him to his car and told him emphatically he would take him. He then drew a pistol from his pocket and snapped it at Brown, it was stated, when the latter retaliated by shooting him in the abdomen. The

pistol the wounded man snapped proved a mere toy, police recorded. Brown was arrested on suspicion of shooting.

Young Woman Stabs Man

Claude Ellis, 50, of Rear 522 Whitehall Street, Room 5, was believed in serious condition from a stab wound of the left chest. A 21-year-old woman was being sought as the assailant. Police said the tabbing took place during the early morning hours.

Two Jailed After Treatment

James Jones, 28, 533 Robbins Street, S. W., was placed in custody of police Wednesday morning when his story of how he was shot in the left leg above the knee did not satisfy police. Treated and dismissed from Grady Hospital clinic Jones allegedly told police that he was walking down the street when someone shot out of a crowd and wounded him.

Also locked up on suspicion for investigation was James Belton, 32 of 217 Randolph Street, who was treated at Grady Hospital for three stab wounds of the left arm. Officers said the wounds looked as if they were incurred with broken glass. Several conflicting stories of how the injuries were sustained told by Belton, police stated.

Argues Over Girl, Stabbed

An argument over a girl led to the stabbing of Ira Wofford, 25, of 502 Spencer Street, S. W., Tuesday night, authorities were informed Wednesday. Wofford said a shoe-shiner, known only as "Buck", had stabbed him in the left shoulder and right arm on Mitchell Street, S. W.

An Anna Shy, 31, of 422 John-Fort and Houston Streets, Harper was rushed to Grady Hospital Tuesday for cuts of the right arm and chest. A furious mate inflicted the injuries, police learned

Argument Over Girl Results In Killing

A stab patient at Grady Hospital was dead Friday afternoon, the 40th colored killing of the current year.

Ira Wofford, 25, of 502 Spencer Street, S. W., was the deceased man having passed of a stab wound of the chest around 1 A. M., Friday. He had been admitted to

40

the hospital Tuesday night. Authorities were informed the stabbed man was a shoe-shiner, known only as "Buck", had cut him on Mitchell Street. An argument over a girl led to the stabbing, reports state.

3 STANDING TRIAL FOR MURDER

2 Women, Man May Know Fate Today; Jury To Decide

'SELF - DEFENSE'

Three persons will hear a charge and await their fate today in a murder trial. The hearing which began Tuesday was recessed after testimony and arguments in the afternoon.

Standing trial for murder are Russell Lawrence, Miss Willie Florence Lawrence, and Mrs. Anna Lou Wims. They are charged with knifing to death one Willie Brooks last December 16. The deceased passed after being stabbed before a Woodward Avenue address in Summerhill.

The defendants based their brief pleas on contentions that the deceased was drunk when he cut one of them and threatened the others with a switch-blade knife as they proceeded to call an officer.

On the stand, Mrs. Wims said Brooks met her on the street, spoke to her and she in turn spoke to him. Not hearing her, the deceased is alleged to have stuck her in a thigh with his knife after cursing.

Bloody and cut underclothes were exhibited by the defense to show that Mrs. Wims was attacked by the reported drunken dead man. She said she went to get the other two defendants, her relatives, to call police, when they were attacked by Brooks. Lawrence stabbed Brooks twice, he testified, when the latter missed him attempting to send his steel blade into his body.

One witness stated that Brooks brandished his knife as he walked up and down Woodward Avenue threatening people who passed and exclaiming: "I'm going to send somebody to hell, or go myself."

Detective Newton, of the Atlanta Police Department, said he looked for Lawrence three months before he discovered him in another neighborhood. He said the woman defendants told him they knew nothing of the affair when first questioned.

A white woman spoke in character of Mrs. Wims.

Skull Injury Proves Fatal To D. Hawkins

City police Thursday reported as a homicide the May 2 death of Daniel Hawkins. Records said they only learned of the case this week. An arrest was effected the same day the report to headquarters was made.

According to investigators, Hawkins was admitted to Grady hospital April 30, suffering a fractured skull. He died two days later.

Witnesses state that Hawkins was engaged in a fist fight on Fort street between Houston and Ellis streets, when he was knocked to the sidewalk and his head injured. At Grady, the wound proved serious. Arrested as the assailant was Minus Tallent, 21, alias "Buck" of an unknown address.

"Ras" Brown To Face Judge Tomorrow

"Ras" Brown, 64, of 262 1-2 Auburn Avenue, must face a Recorder's Court hearing Saturday morning in connection with the murder of Louis Harper, 31, of 510 Houston Street N. E.

Harper died of a gunshot wound of the abdomen at Grady Hospital Thursday morning, at 8:15 o'clock. He was admitted early May 12 in a serious condition.

According to police reports, Brown shot Harper at the corner of Fort and Houston Streets. Brown allegedly told a resting officers that he shot Harper when

the latter drew a .38 pistol on him and snapped it. He reportedly said Harper had named him and requested him to take him some place in his auto. Upon informing the deceased that he wasn't "running a taxi," Brown said he was followed to his auto and told emphatically he would take him when the top pistol was snapped at him, according to police records.

Brown awaited officers after the wounded man was rushed to Grady and was booked on a shooting charge. The charge was changed to murder with the death of Harper Thursday.

VICTIM SHOT DOWN NEAR COW BARN

Slayer Tells Police Victim Was In Act Of Stealing Cow

HEARING LOOMS

An unidentified man was killed near a Smith street barn Tuesday night, after the owner shot, allegedly believing him to be a cow thief.

The man, about 35 years old, was pronounced dead or a blow with a blunt instrument arrival at Grady Hospital, where a Sellers Brothers ambulance carried the body for official check.

According to Frank Ringer, 37, 31 Smith street, who was held in the shooting, he got off from work at eleven o'clock and upon approaching home heard his dog barking. He got his gun and flashlight and proceeded to the barn, where he had been having trouble with persons trying to steal his chained cow, he said.

When he approached near to where the animal was standing, a flashlight was thrown on him and he was told not to come further. Ringer is quoted as saying by police. Ringer then raised his .32-caliber Spanish type gun and fired, according to reports. The victim is said

to have run from the barn and fell. They found the death weapon last evening. They had a knife, however, which attracted by the shot told police they saw the man run from the barn. Ringer was arrested at the Pierce Wright's body and street residence of his employer, which they "assumed" belonged to the victim, according to records.

Called to the scene of the fight, Officers said they found the dying youth lying in front of 131 Kinett Street. An ice pick had been thrust into his left temple and heart. He was still alive when they took him into the police car and started for Grady. At the hospital, however, he was pronounced dead on arrival.

44TH KILLING IN ATLANTA LISTED ON GRADY RECORD

The 44th colored person killed through violence this year was recorded Wednesday with the death of a man listed by Grady Hospital attaches as Calvin Cole of an Anderson avenue address.

Cole was admitted to Grady Saturday night after he had been found by a passerby in a semi-conscious state. He never fully regained consciousness from the time he was admitted until his death at 6:30 a. m. Wednesday. Authorities said he had a severe laceration of the scalp. No operation was performed, it was reported. Injuries seemed to have been incurred through a blow with a blunt instrument such as a pick, according to Grady attaches. Police had not officially recorded the case Wednesday morning, but launched an investigation at a later hour.

Summerhill Boy Dies Of Pick Stab Wounds

Twenty-year-old Joseph Wright of 721 Fraser Street was dead of ice pick stab wounds Saturday following a late Friday night altercation and fight. Police had not reported the arrest of an assailant nor had

they found the death weapon last evening. They had a knife, however, which attracted by the shot told police they saw the man run from the barn. Ringer was arrested at the Pierce Wright's body and street residence of his employer, which they "assumed" belonged to the victim, according to records.

Called to the scene of the fight, Officers said they found the dying youth lying in front of 131 Kinett Street. An ice pick had been thrust into his left temple and heart. He was still alive when they took him into the police car and started for Grady. At the hospital, however, he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Police listed Joe Chandler, 27, of 760 Martin Street, as having said a bunch of persons were fighting before the Kinett Street address, and that one of them threw a rock and broke out a window glass there. When police arrived, no one was there, according to reports. Detectives Hilderbrand and Taylor were assigned to investigate the case.

The ice pick victim's death marked the 44th violence fatality among colored Atlantans during the current year.

43

44

42

41

3 STANDING TRIAL FOR MURDER

Killings- 1938

Two Resort Owners Jailed as Pair Admits Being Hired by Them to Murder Parson

Confession Accuses Brothers of Paying \$150 for Slaying of Vice-Hating Georgia Island Rector

(The Associated Press)
Brunswick, Ga., Oct. 27.—Two men had been under arrest a week for questioning before his statement. The other negro was arrested at Washington, Ga. Sheriff Lee eight months ago so the two vice-hating rector of historic Christ church no longer could pose ill at ease.

Police Chief J. E. Register, who announced arrest of the quartet on murder warrants, said one of the negroes, George Cleyborn, made an oral confession implicating the resort operators, Henry J. Cofer and W. H. Cofer, middle-aged brothers, and naming the other negro, known to him as "Willie" or "Looney," as the actual slayer.

Dr. Lee, Episcopal clergyman, rugged and erect in spite of his 71 years, was killed near midnight February 5 by a mysterious shot from the dark as he sat in the rectory preparing a sermon. Chief Register quoted Cleyborn as reporting he fired one shot from outside the rectory window and missed. The rector moved about and then returned to his place. Cleyborn told officers that "Willie" then said, "give me that gun" and fired the shot that killed Dr. Lee.

Deny Connection

The police chief said Cleyborn recited that Henry Cofer gave him \$150 and the pistol to kill the clergyman and that W. H. Cofer hired "Willie" to help. He said he did not know what "Willie" was paid. The pistol, Cleyborn said, was returned to Henry Cofer.

Attorneys for the Cofers said the brothers denied all connection with the case. The four accused were separated and held incommunicado.

Chief Register credited Chief Ben T. Watkins of the Macon, Ga., police and two of the latter's staff with co-operation in rounding up the case. In Macon, Watkins said a young woman convicted whose name was withheld provided "the foothold we needed in breaking" the case. Watkins said she told of observing as an innocent spectator one of the Cofer

brothers pay a negro \$150 the night Dr. Lee was killed. A casual remark to relatives by the young woman, who was seeking parole, Watkins added, led officers to talk with her about the case. She was paroled October 12.

Move For Hearing

Chief Register disclosed Cleyborn had been under arrest a week for questioning before his statement. The other negro was arrested at Washington, Ga. Sheriff Lee eight months ago so the two vice-hating rector of historic Christ church no longer could pose ill at ease.

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Goes Home to Bed

Mrs. Lee, at the time her husband was killed, said she was with him when they heard a sharp report but that they attributed it to a backfiring automobile. She retired before the second shot was fired. Investigations by officers indicated two shots apparently had been fired into the home from a .38-caliber pistol by a man standing at the corner of a garage outside the window.

Chief Register said Cleyborn told him that after the two negroes killed the minister, they ran through the woods to the negro quarters of the island and that he went home to bed.

Rewards of \$1500 for the killing were offered by state, county and Sea Island citizens without success.

Chairman R. A. Gould of the Glynn county commission at the

time expressed belief that the outspoken Dr. Lee was slain by someone bearing him a grudge possibly because of his sometimes gruff comment on the acts of those he regarded as wrongdoers. G. C. Durand, headmaster of Sea Island school, said Dr. Lee had been greatly disturbed over what he felt were serious vice conditions in Glynn county of which St. Simon's is a part.

Dr. Lee was born in West Virginia, a second cousin of General Robert E. Lee. He entered the ministry in 1893 after teaching school here briefly. He served in parishes in Virginia, Ohio, Tennessee and Macon before coming to Christ church.

Georgia Negroes Admit Killing Night Watchman

ATLANTA, Nov. 15.—(P)—Detective Superintendent J. A. McKibben said today two negroes—one already under death sentence for murder—had confessed being involved in the killing of Thomas H. Herd, 67-year-old Atlanta night watchman whose death had been listed as an unsolved crime since October 16.

McKibben named the men as Raymond Carter, 22, and Richard Smith, 30. Carter and two others are scheduled to die in the electric chair December 9 for the slaying of Police Chief Charles Thompson of Jackson, Ga., three weeks ago.

First of the alleged confessions was obtained Sunday from Carter in the Jackson jail. McKibben said, and the second resulted from what Carter told detectives then. Each negro charged the other with the actual killing of Herd.

Negro Doomed To Die For Double Slaying

MARIETTA, GA., Nov. 14.—(P)—Will Russell, negro, was sentenced today to death in the electric chair December 9 for the dual slaying which stirred racial outbreaks in nearby Smyrna.

A Superior Court jury deliberated an hour before convicting Russell of fatally beating George Campbell, 65, and his 25-year-old daughter, Mrs. Christine Pauls, in their farm home October 16.

State patrolmen reinforced county officers at the time but they were unable to locate the negro. Chief witness against the negro was Cecil Paul, 9-year-old son of the slain woman who was beaten at the time the adults were killed.

Mobs formed in Smyrna on two successive nights shortly after the killings. The negro was safe from lynching attempts in an Atlanta jail but the mob vented its wrath by burning a negro schoolhouse and by beating and abusing negroes taken from automobiles and trolley cars passing through Smyrna.

State patrolmen, city police and

county officers quelled the disturbance. Twenty-six men arrested after the outbreaks await grand jury action.

One Is Shot To Death In Crime Wave

Accused Man Surrenders To Officers

A wave of violence which broke out suddenly last Monday night and early Tuesday morning resulted in one person being shot to death and our other persons being seriously tabbed.

Shot once in the stomach and once in the leg, a man listed as John Brown of 595 Ponders alley, who was admitted to Grady hospital shortly before midnight, succumbed at 11 o'clock Tuesday morning.

According to police reports, investigating officers reported that the deceased man had told them that he was shot by Walter Jolly of 395 Ponders alley. He stated that he was taken upon without provocation.

SUSPECT SURRENDERS

Surrendering at police headquarters a short while later Jolly is said to have admitted doing the shooting which occurred at 205 Currier street, but told officers that he shot Brown after the latter had fired on him.

Walter Watson of 395 Ponders alley, Laura Hollingsworth and Margaret Jones of 189 Hilliard street are listed as witnesses to the shooting by officers.

Stabbed in the abdomen, Hubert Young of the rear of 95 Bell street was in a serious condition last night according to hospital attaches.

According to police records, Young's sister stated that he was knifed by Mary Lou Stephens following an argument after the woman is said to have accused Young's smaller brother of stealing

some whiskey belonging to her. Police stated that the woman admitted inflicting the wounds.

A man gave his name as Robert Moss of 279 Angier avenue was treated at Grady hospital for knife wounds about the head, hands, arms, and back.

Moss is reported to have told officers that he was stabbed by Robert Ford when the latter became incensed at him while he was joking with another friend on Dunlap street.

Killings - 1938

Georgia.

THE HOME A CASTLE

The incident two Sundays ago when a white man forced himself in the home of a colored man to retrieve a ball, gives a slight insight to occurrences in the rural districts and other places. Reports are frequently made of white men assaulting and oft times taking the life of colored persons in their homes, giving some frivolous excuse for being there. Inability to present sufficient evidence to surmount the statement of the white intruders, the guilty ones are never molested and the full blame placed against the inoffensive colored man. The local case would have terminated in like manner were it not for the fairness of a white witness who gave testimony in favor of the colored man, who in protecting himself and his home, was caused to mortally wound the white man who intruded himself. A dozen or more persons were summoned at the preliminary trial to testify against the colored man. Being defended by astute lawyers, these witnesses were used in behalf of the defense, proving that the victim was the aggressor, even in forcing his way into the home. One of the witnesses was especially of value to the defense. The friends of the white man who was killed, attempted to attack the colored man, but they were thwarted. If they were in any other place, no doubt, they would have succeeded in preventing a legal procedure. The colored man was charged with murder. This has been reduced to manslaughter. The presiding judge commended him in protecting his home. It is assumed that at the regular trial he will be acquitted.

5 Violent Deaths In 8 Days

8-21-38
Saturday Night
Victim Dies In
Hospital Clinic

Atlanta's fifth colored killing in eight days was recorded by city police Saturday night when a man listed as Ed Nipper, of 440 McDaniel street, died of a knife wound in the Grady hospital clinic.

Admitted to the clinic a few minutes before 10 p. m. Nipper passed about eight minutes after being removed from a private ambulance.

Hospital attaches said Nipper was stabbed in the left cheek and lost a considerable amount of blood before being removed from the scene of the affray.

Patrolman Tuck, of the evening watch at the hospital, and attending physicians said Nipper was intoxicated when admitted to the clinic.

Witnesses, who accompanied the dying man to the hospital were quoted by the officer as saying Nipper was stabbed in front of 412 Humphries street SW, after he and several others had taken part in a gambling game.

Radio patrolmen and detectives were ordered to look out for a man known as Charlie Hood, of a Humphries street address, following Nipper's death. If caught, Hood will be questioned in connection with the killing, it was revealed.

The death of Nipper marked the 53rd among colored people for this year.

Saturday night of last week a young woman, Miss Catherine Holden, of a Hardee street address, died almost instantly when struck by a stray bullet on Green street near Fort street. The assailant was shooting at another woman.

There were other killings last Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

FOUR ARE ARRESTED IN STABBING DEATH

WAYNESBORO, Ga., Aug. 23.—(AP)—Sheriff J. L. Hendington, of Burke county, tonight said he was holding in custody four negroes in connection with the fatal stabbing of a 27-year-old white man near here early this morning.

A fifth negro, charged with the actual stabbing, had not been apprehended at a late hour.

Sheriff Hendington named the white man as Edward Jackson, of Alexander, a community near Waynesboro.

Funeral services for the victim were held this afternoon.

NEGRO MURDER CASES

Judge Ogden Persons expressed deep regret at the number of Negro murder cases as he finished holding criminal court in Butts and Monroe counties.

"I don't understand why the Negroes are so murderous toward each other," he said. "I asked our cook why she thought they were so inclined to kill each other, and she expressed the belief that the law makes too many excuses for them so it is too easy for them to 'get away with murder.'"

"I wouldn't be surprised if that doesn't have something to do with it. The courts get a little too sympathetic with their shortcomings and lack of understanding, and the laws are not administered against them with the same firmness as is applied in the white man's case."

SHERIFF OF TAYLOR IS SHOT BY QUARRY

Negro Opens Fire as Officer Seeking His Arrest.

AMERICUS, Ga., Sept. 1.—(AP)—Sheriff John M. Bone, of Taylor county, was recovering today from shotgun wounds which State Highway Trooper W. M. Haley said he received last night in a gun battle with a negro.

Haley said the negro, named Nance McCuddy, 60, was killed.

The sheriff stopped at the home of the negro between Reynolds and Butler, Haley said, in connection with a liquor car investigation.

"The negro," the trooper asserted, "shot at the sheriff five times with an automatic shotgun, hitting him in the left leg and sprinkling his body with buckshot. The sheriff shot the negro in the chest with a pistol."

Investigate 69th Race Killing

"Peacemaker"

Dies of Stab

Wound

10-12-38
Playing the role of peacemaker Monday night around nine o'clock cost Steve Bailey, 28, of 363 Hunter Street, N.E., his life as he was reportedly stabbed in the right chest with a switchblade knife by James Green, 18, of

69 1450 Hardee Street, N. E. Bailey attempted to stop a fight between Green and Willie Webb, 35, of 363 Hunter Street, N.E., It was reported. Taken to Grady, Bailey was pronounced dead upon arrival.

According to police records, Radio Patrolmen D. T. Barge and R. E. Wall had been cruising around on East Fair street when they saw a man and woman run out from between two houses on Horton street, coming from the rear of East Hunter street. Upon questioning the two, they said they learned a fight had occurred, allegedly between Green and Webb, and Bailey had been killed. The policemen said they found him unconscious on the sidewalk in front of the 363 East Hunter street address.

INTERVIEW TWO

The woman and man interviewed were Mrs. Rosa Mae Bailey, 30, of 363 East Hunter, and Charlie Arnold, 25, of the same address. Both are said to have been eye-witnesses.

Arnold, according to reports, told detectives he heard the fuss between Green and Webb over some money and that Green threatened the latter, saying, "If you don't pay me the quarter you owe me, I'm gonna run everybody off." Arnold said Green then cut Webb and Bailey stepped in to separate them, and was given a deep stab in the right side of the chest.

Steve Bailey's death is the 69th recorded colored killing of the year. In an effort to clear up the murder, the case has been assigned Detectives Hildebrand and Taylor for further investigation.

Aged Victim Pronounced Dead Upon His Arrival At Clinic

Witnesses Say Stepfather Under Influence of Whiskey at Time Of Fatal Occurrence Here

Slayers of Jackson Chief to Die Dec. 9

Butts Jury Debates 20 Minutes Before Sending Three Negroes to Chair

By HARRY P. LEADINGHAM

JACKSON, Ga., Nov. 9 (AP)—Three of five Negroes accused of the slaying October 25 of Police Chief Charles T. Thornton were convicted of murder today and sentenced to die in the electric chair December 9.

The trio, tried before Superior Court Judge Ogden Persons, was listed as Charlie Rucker, Raymond Carter and Jim Henry Williams. The other two accused, booked as Lucius and Mattie Adkins, will be tried tomorrow, Solicitor General Frank B. Willingham said.

Chief Thornton was shot through the heart when he approached a group of Negroes in a dark street and challenged them. Sheriff G. T. Thurston of Butts county testified one of the five accused admitted he fired a shot in an altercation with the chief.

The jury deliberated 20 minutes. The state called 17 witnesses to the stand. The defense had no witnesses and the defendants did not testify.

A jury of eight farmers, two textile workers and a sawmill operator and a pharmacist was selected in about 15 minutes shortly after court convened. J. C. Redman, a farmer, was foreman.

The case was tried at a special session of court. Defense Counsel A. M. Zellner of Forsyth, sought to quash the indictment on the grounds the indictment listed five defendants and only one pistol as the weapon used. Judge Persons overruled the demurrer.

Shortly before noon Solicitor Willingham read into the record purported confessions by Williams, Rucker and Carter while they were being held at Atlanta immediately after their arrest as to a series of robberies at Griffin and its vicinity with three shots and then "all dead," and near Barnesville. The defense objected on the grounds the state-he called to him. The defense had no bearing on the death of Chief Thornton, but Judge Persons overruled the objection.

as the three who came into his store and with whom Thornton was talking at the time he was shot. The jury of murder today by a Superior Court and sentenced to die in the electric chair December 9.

Other witnesses besides Turner and Thurston included J. S. Harper, Griffin police chief, who testified of the arrest of the defendants at Griffin after the Thornton shooting. He also testified that Williams and Rucker had come to Jackson "to burglarize some stores."

Jesse Futral, Griffin city attorney, and R. A. Drake, Griffin city manager, also testified as to statements made by the defendants at Atlanta. J. G. Morris, Lamar county sheriff, testified as to several robberies in his county.

Captain B. W. Seabrook of the Atlanta police force testified that Williams, Rucker and Carter said while at Atlanta "they had committed many burglaries in Griffin and Butts county."

Pistol Identified

A pistol found near the place Thornton was shot was identified by L. L. Clements, manager of an eating place near Barnesville, as one of three taken from his place in a holdup in which he was shot in the leg and in which the robbers escaped with \$235.

The attorneys addressed the jury only briefly after completion of evidence. Willingham asked for the death penalty, saying "all three are equally guilty."

Several hundred thronged the courtroom throughout the day, but there was no disorder. Four state highway patrolmen stood guard at the trial with local officers.

The Negroes were returned to the jail here pending their removal for execution.

Solicitor Willingham said he would seek to prove that the two Adkins brought the three defendants convicted today to Jackson in their car and that they had also taken them on several other trips during which burglaries were committed.

NEGRO JAILED IN WARE AFTER DOUBLE KILLING

WAYCROSS, Ga., Oct. 24.—Clarence "Red" Sheffield, 37-year-old negro turpentine hand, was held in the Ware county jail today facing a double charge of murder.

He was arrested in the Manor section yesterday after a fight after Bonnie Ralls and Frank Green, negroes with whom he lived, had been shot to death.

Three Of Five Negroes Get Death Sentences

JACKSON, GA., Nov. 9.—(AP)—Three of five negroes accused of the slaying October 25 of Police Chief Charles T. Thornton were convicted

FIVE ARE INDICTED IN BUTTS SLAYING

Negroes Named in Bill Charging Murder of Chief.

JACKSON, Ga., Nov. 7.—A joint indictment was returned in connection with the slaying of October 25 of Police Chief C. T. Thornton was returned today by the Butts county grand jury against five negroes, listed as Charlie Rucker, Raymond Carter, Lucius Adkins, Mattie Adkins and Jim Henry Williams.

The trial is set for Wednesday at a special session of Butts superior court.

The negroes, held in Fulton county, in Atlanta since their arrest the day after the slaying, were returned to the Butts county jail yesterday by Sheriff G. T. Thurston.

Solicitor General Frank B. Willingham, assisted by two local attorneys, will prosecute the case when it is called for trial Wednesday.

James Davis, 24, of 170 Richardson Street, S. E., called police to this address and gave himself up. He told the officers that he had just stabbed his step-father, 64-year-old Ed Coney of the same address, and that the victim had been pronounced dead on arrival at Grady hospital.

He related further, and was substantiated by witnesses, that his step-father was under the influence of liquor and had run him away from home, striking him on the arm with an axe handle. At 6:30 o'clock Sunday morning, Coney started at Davis with a knife, according to Davis and witnesses, and the step-son declares that he picked up an ice pick and stabbed his antagonist in the right side of the chest.

and had run him away from home, striking him on the arm with an axe handle. At 6:30 o'clock Sunday morning, Coney started at Davis with a knife, according to Davis and witnesses, and the step-son declares that he picked up an ice pick and stabbed his antagonist in the right side of the chest.

ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING

Willie Stephens of 184 Hunnicutt St., N. E., convinced officers that his gun discharged accidentally and wounded Thomas Canton who is in a serious condition at Grady.

Stephens was across his bed when Thomas came in playfully and declared that he was going to stab Stephens. Stephens states that he then got up and procured his pistol from a drawer but that its breech was open and it went off. Investigation by officers seemed to substantiate this claim and Stephens was not arrested. Canton did not have a knife at all in this prank that resulted in serious injury. Canton's condition was quoted as "poor" early Sunday night.

66

Killings-1938.

Georgia.

1938 Deaths Six Lower Than '37 At Present

Colored killings in Atlanta today are six behind the total recorded last year this time.

The 1938 total Thursday was 56, while a year ago the record was 62. The 1938 colored killing total moved up after Thursday when police officials reported the death of Will Pittman of 92 Whites alley. The victim died from the results of eight stab wounds of the chest, arms and legs.

Officers arrested Mrs. Pearl Jones, 45, of 92 Whites alley, and questioned her in connection with the fatal stabbing of the man. She was quoted by policemen as saying another man committed the crime.

LETTER BLUE IN MURDER

Using a letter as their only clue city detectives and police Saturday were attempting to solve the mysterious killing late Friday night of Edward Clark, 20-year-old youth of 59 Townes street, SE.

Clark was fatally wounded by an unknown person around 11 o'clock Friday night. The victim was riding a bicycle on Fair street near Townes street when shot.

Rushed to Grady hospital, Clark was pronounced dead on arrival.

One of the bullets fired at Clark barely missed John Saxton, 28, of 265 Fair street, SE, who was sitting on his front porch at the time of the shooting.

Another pellet from the murderer's gun drilled through the wall of a house located at 264 Fair street, SE. Mrs. Ollie Stokes, of the same address, said she found the slug in

the inside wall of the house.

Lawrence Spencer, 41, of 272 Fair street, SE, told police he heard three shots but did not see who fired them, while James Nice, of 72 Townes street, said he heard four shots.

In the meantime, a sister of the deceased, Mrs. Mary Smith, 24, of 59 Townes Street, SE, gave detectives a letter which she said was delivered to her home for Edward Clark the day before.

She said the letter, which was written by a young woman, revealed that the suspect would "get even with Edward Clark if it is the last thing I ever do."

The killing gave Atlanta its 57th killing for the year among colored people in Atlanta.

Woman Struck By Stray Slug Dies Almost Instantly

Two homicides Saturday night had sent the Atlanta colored violence total of the current year to 59.

Struck by stray shot as she walked on Green street between Bell and Fort a twenty-two-year-old woman listed as Bertha Mae, last known to have lived at a Piedmont avenue address, was pronounced dead on arrival at Grady Hospital. Police said she was shot unintentionally by a man firing at another woman.

According to Miss Myrtie Bennett, 45, of 69 Hilliard street, Apartment 9, Lonnie Roby, 40, of 60 Howell street, S. E., shot at her when she refused to accompany him to his home. She said he fired at her for no apparent reason. Three five times. One of the shots thrusts in the heart proved fatal. penetrated the vertebra of Bertha Mae and lodged in her chest, causing death, police said. Last seen fleeing toward Houston street, Roby was being pursued by police.

Heart Stabs Fatal
Finley Chaney, 30, of 47 Haynes street, S. W., was pronounced dead on arrival at Grady, after an ambulance picked him up on the corner of Fair and Chapel street, S. W., last Friday night, according to detectives. Witnesses said that an A. B. Biv

Man Slain Following Game On Vernon Place Self-Defense Claim In Killing

By ROBERT M. RATCLIFFE

The dead man was slumped over a chair when police arrived. The officers found the motionless body in the middle room of an almost deserted house.

The police lieutenant, his driver and two radio patrolmen studied their flashlights on the man and studied his position.

There was a bullet hole beneath the left side of his nose, and powder burns on his left hip, indicating that more than likely he had looked into the barrel of the pistol that spelled his death. Only his left hand pointed toward the floor. His right hand was in the pocket of his pants. Police said the right hand was holding an unopened pocket knife.

There were two quarters on the floor near the dead man's chair.

A woman who heard the shooting said, "they had been gambling" in the room before she heard the fatal shot.

And so was the sudden passing of Jack Cain, 30 years old, of 372 Linden street, who died instantly last Sunday night of a gunshot wound of the head at 249 Vernon place.

Radio Patrolmen Nash and Gunn, answered a call to the Vernon place address, and on arriving met Lieut. Allen and his driver. Following an investigation, Cain's body was sent to Grady hospital where it was pronounced dead.

And to jail went Aaron Sinkfield, of 249 Vernon place. Police said Sinkfield was in charge of the house when Cain was killed. Sinkfield was booked on suspicion.

The officers started a search for Sid Kemp, who lives in the rear of Felton drive near Pine street. Witnesses said Kemp and Cain were engaged in a gambling contest prior to the shooting on the latter. The killing gave Atlanta its 60th among colored people for the year.

Claiming self-defense, Harold Lee, 26, of 263 Old Wheat street, NE, surrendered at City Jail late Tuesday night after taking the life of Fred Scott, 53, of 263 Old Wheat street, NE, apartment 1.

Shot through the heart by a slug fired from a .22 calibre rifle, Scott was dead before a Hanley ambulance could take him to Grady hospital.

Police quoted Mrs. Pearl Parrott, 40, of 263 Old Wheat street, NE, as saying Lee shot and killed the victim when Scott threatened to take her life and Lee's.

She said Lee got his rifle because he thought Scott was holding a concealed weapon. Police said the dead man had been drinking.

Radio Patrolmen H. A. Beatty and E. T. Sims investigated the killing, which gave Atlanta its 61st colored slaying of the year.

Mrs. Viola Archer, 31, of 398 Bedford place, NE, was seriously cut about the body late Tuesday night. At Grady hospital where she was admitted, she was quoted by police as saying her former husband, Mose Archer, attacked her.

Three Women In House With Man; 1 Loses Life

INVADER OF HOME SLAIN BY GEORGIAN

Two women were arrested on suspicion late Wednesday night and search started for a 23-year-old man in connection with the fatal stabbing of Miss Clara Allen, 31, of the rear of 15-B Yonge Street, SE.

The victim died almost instantly of a stab wound of the back, which was inflicted at her home Wednesday night around 11 o'clock.

The killing marked the third of the week and fourth since Saturday night among the colored people in Atlanta. The colored homicide total now stands at 62.

City Detectives said the two women arrested and booked on suspicion are Mrs. Annie Wright, 62, of the rear of 15-B Yonge street, and Mrs. Estelle Adams, 34, of 2352 Oakview road, S.E.

Both admitted being in the house at the time of the stabbing but neither would admit being in the room where the murder actually occurred. Both women claimed, however, that the other was in the room with the wanted man and the victim during time of the cutting.

Police said they were looking for Henry Cody, 23, of the rear of 15-B Yonge Street, SE, to question him in connection with the killing. The arrested women said Cody was in the room when the young woman was killed.

Domestic differences involving the four persons mentioned here led to the murder, investigating officers declared.

Savannah, Ga., Aug. 19--Possible mob violence was thwarted here Monday by the removal of Sam Hannah, 52 from the Georgia infirmary to the city jail, after he had shot and killed Hellis Bragg, white.

Upon finding the prisoner gone from the infirmary where he had been taken for first aid treatment of scalp wounds inflicted by Bragg, the mob of over 100 whites went to Hannah's home at 136 W. Fifty fourth Street and burned it to the ground.

The shooting, according to Hannah, arose when several white men came to his home to retrieve a ball which had been knocked into Hannah's yard in course of their base ball game in a nearby lot.

Hannah said he told them to wait outside while he went to the back yard and got the ball for them. Instead of waiting the men are said to have followed Hannah into his home.

An altercation arose when Hannah objected to this invasion and Bragg is said to have struck him over the head with a ball bat. At this point Hannah told police he seized a pistol and fired upon his assailant.

Bragg collapsed and died in front of the Hannah home shortly after the shooting.

Defender
August 20, 1938
Chicago, Illinois

WAS SCARED INTO IT,
SUSPECT DECLARES
IN JESUP JAIL CELL

Charges Will Hold, Authorities State, But New Probe Is Planned.

BRUNSWICK, Ga., Oct. 29.—(UP)—George Cleyburn, negro held for the murder of Dr. Charles H. Lee, 71, second cousin of General Robert E. Lee, tonight repudiated his confession which has resulted in the arrest of three other men.

Cleyburn had confessed that he and another negro, Willie Green, had been hired for \$150 by Henry J. and W. H. Cofer, resort operators on St. Simons Island, to kill the aged cleric because of his outspoken attacks against vice conditions on the island.

George Cowart, attorney representing the accused negro, took Solicitor W. Ben Gibbs to the Wayne county jail at Jesup late today and Cleyburn changed his story.

The negro said he made his confession because he was "scared" and that he was not involved in the killing.

Authorities said the murder charges against the Cofer brothers and the negroes would hold but that a new investigation into the murder would be made at once.

Dr. Lee, pastor of the 200-year-old Christ church on St. Simons Island, was killed last February as he sat in the rectory study preparing a Sunday sermon. The assailant stood in a clump of bushes and fired through a window.

The arrest of the four men came nine months later, when Mrs. Carrie Stevens, who was serving a prison sentence at Milledgeville, Ga., for aiding her husband rob one of the Cofer brothers' stores, told officers she saw Henry Cofer pay Cleyburn \$150 on the night Dr. Lee was slain.

Cleyburn then confessed the Cofer brothers paid him the money and furnished a pistol to "hush up" the crusading minister. He told how he first fired at the cleric and missed. Dr. Lee was slightly deaf and thought the first shot was an automobile backfire.

Fifteen minutes later Cleyburn said Willie took the gun from him and fired the fatal shot. The negroes then fled through a forest and later both left the island. They were arrested this week, one at Baxley and the other at Wash-

ington, Ga. The Cofer brothers, arrested on the island, emphatically denied they were involved and demanded a preliminary hearing. The hearing will be held sometime next week.

Killings - 1938

Georgia

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald

June 14, 1938

DELEGATION MAKES PROSECUTION PLEA

A group of Birmingham Negroes Monday called at the courthouse, seeking prosecution of H. E. Colburn, 31, who recently killed in a courthouse corridor John Lewis Smith, Negro, who had been convicted and sentenced to 99 years in prison on a charge of attacking Colburn's 7-year-old daughter.

In the delegation, according to Dr. E. W. Taggart, one of its members were Mandy Hill, mother of the slain Negro; the Rev. R. R. Williams, president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Association, and W. E. Shortridge, local president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The Negroes first called on J. G. Brooks, warrant clerk, asking for a new murder warrant against Colburn. Brooks told them the matter was out of his hands.

Then they called on Assistant Solicitor Robert McAdory, who advised them to wait until the next Grand Jury is organized and to speak to the judge who charges the investigators or the Grand Jury foreman.

BELIEVED TO BE SLAYER, MAN SHOT

Police Shoot Wrong Man In Quest Of Ellis' Killer

EXPLAIN ACT

A man lay in Grady Hospital critically wounded Saturday after he had been shot by policemen earlier in the day when mistaken for a murderer for whom a wide search was being made. The man was listed as Jim Jones, 32, of an unknown address.

Patrolman J. R. Hardman said he shot Jones when he failed to

wait in the rear of 220 Auburn Avenue, N. E., as he and Lieutenant J. T. Malcom searched the vicinity for a Wilson Greenleaf, wanted for the midnight murder of Ossie Ellis, 24, of 1399 Jonesboro Road.

Ellis was reported killed in a restaurant at 320 Butler Street, at the height of an argument over \$5 between him, Frank Davenport, 35, of 211 Chestnut Way, N. E., Apartment 21, and Greenleaf.

Investigating police were reportedly informed by Mrs. Fannie Browner, cafe operator, that the three came into her place of business and got a sandwich, prior to the argument. She said that Greenleaf pulled his knife and stabbed

Ellis who died immediately as they sat eating. He was pronounced dead on arrival at Grady Hospital with a stab wound in the heart. Davenport was arrested when he refused to talk concerning the crime, police said. Greenleaf was still at large last night.

Claim Wounded Man Had Ice Pick, Liquor

Patrolman Hardman, who was in one of the many cars on the lookout for Ellis' murderer, said that Jones, the wounded man, threw away a package later found to contain one-half gallon of liquor, and ran, arousing his suspicion. He also claimed that an ice pick was found near Jones, which he had seen flashed during the chase. Lieutenant Malcom's report was similar to that of the patrolman.

Jones was taken to Grady hospital where he was admitted. His condition was "only fair" Saturday evening.

Clanton Is Near Blindness; Assailant Is Killed

QUITMAN, Ga., June 17 (AP)—Sheriff Colin E. Clanton of Brooks county was in a hospital tonight, threatened with possible blindness, and a Negro listed as Perry Stokes was dead as an aftermath of what Mayor Albert Tidwell of Quitman described as an attack on the sheriff.

Hospital attendants said Sheriff Clanton had been critically burned about the face, neck and chest by a mixture of peach and water. The sheriff said the Negro, a prisoner in the Brooks county jail, hurled the liquid in his eyes when he brought the evening meal. He added he had pulled his revolver from its holster and fired at his assailant.

Sheriff Clanton was found by Deputy Sheriff Pay Murphy and City Police Officers Sam Turner and Dick Jones who were summoned by an unidentified person who heard a shot in the jail. The Negro had been fatally wounded in the heart.

Clanton, about 55 years old, has been sheriff of Brooks county for about 20 years. He is a brother of Chief of Police Audley Clanton of Quitman. Both are widely known in South Georgia and North Florida.

The Negro had been in the Brooks county jail about a week on a minor charge, the mayor said. He had been given the potash to clean the interior of his cell.

County Attorney Stanley S. Bennet said an inquest would be conducted.

MAN SHOT FOUR TIMES BY OFFICER DIES AT GRADY HOSPITAL

Victim Fails To Give Clear Information To Investigators Before Death Beckons

Officers Record

Victim of four pistol shot wounds at the hands of a city policeman, Johnny Johnson, 25, of 500 Collier Street, N. W., died Thursday.

Johnson was shot shortly after midnight Thursday morning by Radio Patrolman E. V. Forrester, who claimed the deceased advanced on him with knives in both hands.

The patrolman reported that Johnson was loitering around the corner of Davis and Mitchell streets a few hours after the Joe Louis-Max Schmeling fight and that when told to move on he advanced threateningly, saying he was not going to put his knives down as he was "sent here from New York to organize a Communist party". A call to other Communists to come to his aid after Johnson was shot, brought none, the officer said.

The wounded man failed to give reporters any clear information when interviewed at Grady. Rambling, incoherent statements were all that were uttered in the semi-conscious state.

The death of the police victim marked the 47th colored person killed in violence this year.

48th Homicide

Wounded

The 48th colored person had been added to the list of those killed in violence during the current year Tuesday with the death of Thomas Gaither, 18, of 544 Connally Street, S.E. Gaither died at Grady Monday. He was admitted June 25 suffering a gunshot wound of the lower rib section. His condition had remained serious from the time of admission.

Shot at the corner of Terry and Woodward streets, Gaither reportedly told officers that an alias "Knock" committed the crime. The assailant has not been reported arrested.

Police Victim Dies At Grady Monday Nite

George Hall, alias George Kinney, died Monday night at Grady hospital of a wound inflicted Sunday by a city policeman. Hall's

death marked the 51st killing of the year among colored people of Atlanta. Shot near the heart at Ivy and Decatur streets by Patrolman S. L. Hollo-

mon, Hall was admitted to Grady in a serious condition. The patrolman said he shot in self-defense, declaring that Hall pointed a gun at him. Officer Hollo-

man became involved in the shooting when he was called by a group of white men to a section of the State Market where Hall was alleged to have pulled a gun on a white man.

NEGRO CROPPER SLAIN AS HE RESISTS ARREST
VALDOSTA, Ga., June 16.—Henry Davis, negro cropper on a farm owned by Harry Langdale, Valdosta attorney, was shot to death yesterday as he resisted arrest in connection with the recent shooting of Harry Langdale junior.

Deputy Sheriff Jim McDonald reported the younger Langdale was slightly wounded when he went to the farm to remove tobacco. Deputy McDonald, young Langdale and Special Policeman P. E. Murphey went to a farm, 10 miles southeast of here, and Davis sprang from a door guarded by Murphey, who felled him with a sawed-off shotgun.

Two rifles and a shotgun were found in the house. No inquest was ordered.

"Quiet July 4," Atlanta Police Say; Reports Show Violence Played Big Role

The Police Department of Atlanta last night reported a "quiet July 4."

What might have been a perfect day, as far as police officials are concerned, was marred by a few traffic accidents, several hold-ups and a couple of stab wounds.

Radio Patrolmen Elliott and Scott said they nabbed a white man, listed as "Bull" Johnson, well-known police character while in the act of attempting to rob a colored man, James Peek, 26, a janitor at 30 Mitchell Street, SW.

Sighted near the corner of Fair and Capitol, Johnson fled when the officers approached him late Monday. He was apprehended about one block from the scene of the actual hold-up.

STABBED IN STOMACH

John Dexter, 43, of 1150 Osborne street, stabbed several times in the chest and stomach late Sunday night was reported in poor condition Monday night at Grady hospital. Investigating officers quoted Dexter's wife as saying Joe King, of the same address, attacked her husband following an argument.

STAB VICTIM DIES

A youth listed as James Dobbs of this city died of stab wounds early Monday morning at Grady hospital, bringing the total of colored killings for the year to forty-nine.

Officials at Sellers Brothers Funeral Home revealed that their ambulance attendants removed Dobbs from the rear of 741 Windsor street early Sunday morning. They said Dobbs was stabbed in the right side of his chest.

ACCUSES HUSBAND

Twenty-six-year-old Mrs. Alice Huey, of 222 Jackson street, NE, exhibited to police stab wounds of the left hand and shoulder late Sunday night, which she said was the aftermath of a struggle with her husband, Otis, of a Hilliard street address. Stabbed on Cain street between Piedmont and Clif-

ford streets, the victim said she and her husband had been separated two weeks.

MISSING

Mrs. Arlene WC of 213 London Lane, NE, told police a man who came to her home on the morning of July 4, removed \$8.95 from a dresser drawer in her front room.

At 2:20 o'clock Monday morning on Gilmer street between Ivy and Courtland, 13-year-old Clarence Travis, of 125 Courtland avenue, NE, was robbed of eighty-five cents. Travis, an ice cream peddler, later identified the robber at the Farmer's Market. He was arrested and listed as Onner Harris of Colquitt, Ga.

CYCLIST INJURED

William Cliette, 7, of 350 Linden avenue, NE, received a skinned left knee Monday around one o'clock when knocked from his bicycle at the corner of Haynes and Mitchell streets. Investigating officers said William Lester, 29, of 521 Stonewall street, was driving the truck.

HOUSE KNOCKED DOWN

William Strickland, 25, of 198 Chapel street, SW, driving a truck, sideswiped another truck and then skidded 95 feet across the sidewalk, knocking down a small frame house at 57 Haynes street. Patrolmen F. L. Smith and S. B. McGarity reported.

Man, 24, Dies Of Gunshot Injury

Shot in the back early Tuesday morning at 328 Ellis street, NE, 24-year-old Thomas Bates of 375 Angier avenue, NE, died at Grady hospital shortly after being admitted for emergency treatment, police officials revealed.

Robert Perkins, 49, of 328 Ellis street, NE, was arrested and charged with the fatal shooting, investigating officers reported. Perkins was quoted by police as saying he shot

Bates after the victim came on his front porch in a threatening manner.

Perkins insisted that Bates cursed him and reached for his hip pocket as if reaching for a weapon. Perkins said he went into his house, picked up a pistol and came back on the front porch where he fired the fatal shot.

Bates was accompanied by Perkins' sister-in-law, Miss Ella Smith, of 328 Ellis street, NE, when the shooting occurred. It was reported by officers.

Bates died at 2:20 a.m.

SKULL BLOW FATAL TO VICTIM

Colored Homicides In Atlanta Rise To Fifty-Three

VIOLENT WEEK

Robert York, 39, of 794 Pond avenue, swelled Atlanta's 1938 colored homicide total to 53 Sunday when he passed away at Grady hospital. His death, according to hospital attaches, was caused by a blow about the head by a blunt instrument which fractured the skull badly. He was brought to Grady early Sunday morning in a grave condition. His wife accompanied him and declared that he was struck over the head by John Henry of a Spencer street address. She declared that she had no idea what the two men were at odds about.

Police officers report that the accused man, John Henry, gave himself up late Sunday afternoon. He was booked on suspicion of murder.

Violence blotted up the records at headquarters in repetitive doses beginning early Sunday morning. Arthur Johnson, 38, of 154 South avenue was admitted to Grady hospital.

the wee hours badly lacerated by a knife which he claims was wielded by Nick Strozier, 35, of a Connally street address. The two men had an argument about a sum of money and this led to the knife play.

Charlie Redding, 20, Rear of 28 Love street, was treated at Grady for gunshot wounds inflicted in his back. He claims that some unknown person shot him when he "raised up" in some weeds on Crew street alley. He did not inform his mission at this particular spot. He was treated and dismissed.

Arthur Anderson, 35, 271 Pine street was treated at Grady for a knife wound on the back portion of his neck. Police answered the call to the place of the attack and arrested Robert Carlilse, 30, of 271 Pine street and booked him on suspicion of stabbing. Carlilse was first treated at Grady for a cut hand which he claims was inflicted by a bystander who tried to detain him in the attack upon Anderson. Anderson was slashed by the arrested man while the two were allegedly engaged in a struggle.

Police Search For Man Who Shot Fred Mc Loy Friday Around Midnight Hour NEGRO IS KILLED

IN MACON BRAWL

Charlie Walker Dies in Hospital and Another Negro Is Held in Case 8-1-38

Charlie Walker, Negro of 9 Ross street place, died in Macdon hospital last night of stab wounds police said were suffered in a card game. Sheriff's Deputy Roman Raley arrested Henry Clark, Negro, in connection with the case. He had been held on an open charge pending a change in Walker's condition.

Walker was one of two Negroes to suffer injuries in Sabbath fights. The other victim was Henry Jenkins, Lizella Negro shot in the abdomen near Lizella. Sheriff's Deputies Rok Roberson and John Gibson arrested a Negro listed as Sam Nixon, who admitted firing the shot, officers said, and claimed he did it in self-defense.

Before his condition became critical, Walker told officers he was cut by Clark when he sought to aid a brother, Anderson Walker, police reports show.

Police were seeking a man listed as T. Jackson, 25, of 457 Old Wheat Street, N.E. Saturday for the fatal stabbing at midnight Friday of Fred Mc Loy, 24, of the same address.

Miss Lovella Brown, eyewitness to the killing, was being held for investigation. Police said the woman was under influence of liquor when taken into custody.

Arresting Officers Bishop and Jorney quoted the jailed woman as saying Jackson and Mc Loy purchased a gallon of whiskey and were drinking it at the Wheat street address when both men became engaged in an argument.

The officers said they were told the two men were trying to determine which was the better marksmen in the sight of Miss Brown when the fatal stabbing took place.

Stabbed near the heart region with a switchblade knife, Mc Loy was dead on arrival at Grady hospital.

The killing marked the 52nd of the year among colored Atlantans.

53

52

49

50

Killings - 1938

Georgia

Battering of Couple Confessed by Negro

Nine-Year-Old Boy Staggers to Neighbors' Home With News of Double Murder

ATLANTA, Oct. 17 (AP)—Captain B. W. Seabrook of the Atlanta police said a Negro listed as Will Drew Russell, 31, admitted today the ax handle slayings of a 66-year-old Cobb county farmer and his daughter late Saturday night.

The battered bodies of George W. Camp and Mrs. Christine Camp Pauls, 26, were found at their home near Smyrna early today after Mrs. Camp's nine-year-old son, Cecil, reached a neighbor's house following 30 hours of unconsciousness.

The boy, battered about the head, said the Negro struck him with the ax handle.

Seabrook, who questioned the Negro, said he claimed to have struck him first in an argument over \$5 which he contended Camp owed him. The youth told officers, Deputy Seabrook said Russell signed statement admitted he had been "drinking heavily."

The Negro was arrested upon the identification of Cecil, who said Russell lured his grandfather to the

Bulletin

SMYRNA, Oct. 17 (AP)—Chief of Police C. T. White said tonight a crowd of unidentified men burned a 10-room, two-story Negro school during a demonstration following reported confession by a Negro that he was responsible for a double slaying near here Saturday night.

Chief White said earlier in the evening "several Negroes—I don't know exactly how many"—were beaten and stoned by white citizens.

Lon E. Sullivan, state director of safety education, said six state patrolmen had been brought to Cobb county to assist county and local police when it appeared violence might ensue. He said a crowd of about 500 gathered in the streets here at one time, early in the evening, but later dispersed without disorder.

woods and killed him and then killed his mother in the house.

Negro Tells His Version

Deputy Sheriff J. E. Marler of Cobb county questioned the Negro in company with Seabrook.

"Mr. Camp picked up a walking stick and hit me across the shoulder," Seabrook quoted Russell as saying. "Seabrook said he then told of the hitting Camp with the ax handle whereupon Mrs. Pauls set upon him with a baseball bat. Seabrook said the Negro contended he did not remember hitting the boy."

death with an ax handle George Washington Camp, 66, and Mrs. Christine Pauls, Camp's 26-year-old daughter.

NEGRO ARRESTED IN WALDEN DEATH

Sheriff's Deputies Say Charlie
Howard Has Confessed Stab-
bing WPA Worker

Sheriff's deputies yesterday afternoon arrested Charlie Howard, 27, Negro, 122 Railroad avenue, in connection with the fatal stabbing of Wesley Walden, Negro WPA worker of 541 Railroad avenue.

Walden was stabbed about the body early Saturday night at Railroad avenue and Virginia lane and died later that night at Macon hospital, officers said.

Deputy Oscar Harris said Howard admitted stabbing Walden in a quarrel over a nickel.

Although the fatality was not reported to the sheriff until early yesterday afternoon, they had jailed Howard and obtained a confession within two hours after receiving the report.

Coroner Lester H. Chapman said an inquest will be held at 11 a.m. today.

Deputy Harris said he had been informed police received a call on the death Saturday night but found no report at city hall.

Howard is employed at a box factory here. He was arrested by Deputies Harris, W. H. Bowden and Roman Raley.

NEGRO IS SOUGHT IN SLAYING HERE

Buford Cater Accused by Police
of Firing Fatal Load at Robert Gates

Macon police said early last night they were seeking Buford Cater, 35-year-old Negro, on a charge of murdering Robert Gates, 45, Negro, in a residence at 655 Hazel street yesterday afternoon.

The fatal shooting was reported to officers at 4 p.m. and they said Gates was dead when they reached the scene. They declared the Negro's abdomen had received a full charge from a single-barrel shotgun.

Witnesses stated Cater picked up the gun in a room and fired at Gates

after the two men and a third Negro had come in the house from a chat on the front porch, police said.

Carter afterwards was reported to have declared he did not know the gun was loaded, officers noted.

A white man passing near the house at the time said he heard the shot and saw a Negro answering to Cater's description dash out and disappear on Elm street, police reported.

Detectives E. L. Foster and J. L. McSwain and Officers W. L. O'Casey and O. R. Stokes investigated the incident. Gates' body was sent to a local funeral home pending a coroner's inquest today.

GANG CONFESSES TO GRIFFIN CHIEF

Six or Seven' Jobs Near
Barnesville Admitted by
Group Held in Jackson Case

(Telegraph's Georgia News Service)

GRiffin, Oct. 26—Chief of Police J. S. Harper of Griffin said tonight a young Negro listed as Jim Henry Williams, 20, has been identified by five persons as the slayer of Chief of Police C. F. Thornton Tuesday night in Jackson.

In addition, four Negro companions who have been identified as the triggerman, another eye witness has identified him as the killer, the chief said. He named the other witnesses as Henry Turner, operator of a store in Jackson, Mr. Turner in an automobile a short distance away from the chief when he was killed.

Chief Harper returned here late tonight from Atlanta, where he said confessions of the Negroes cleared several baffling holdups and burglaries in the Barnesville-Milner section.

Williams Denies Shooting

He said that while Williams admitted being a party to the robbery activities and admitted being in Jackson Tuesday night when Chief Thornton was killed, he denied having shot the officer.

The Griffin chief, who has spent many hours of personal work on the case since it broke early Tuesday night, said the five suspects told him that Charlie Rucker, Raymond Carter and Williams pulled the jobs and that Lucius Adkins and Mattie Adkins furnished transportation. All are charged with murdering Chief Thornton.

Search of the Negroes' homes here today brought to light several hundred dollars worth of loot and also resulted in identifying the gun said to have been used in slaying the officer. However, Chief Harper said no fingerprints were found on the gun which fired the fatal shots (found in the Negro suspects' automobile) or on another weapon

dropped by one of the fleeing men Tuesday night in Jackson.

Pistols Are Claimed

The Griffin officer said the gang had admitted "shooting up" Andrew Swint's filling station and pecan sales stand between Milner and Barnesville, had confessed to burglarizing the D. Rainey store in Barnesville, Smith, Inc., in Barnesville and other places. The chief said about \$200 worth of loot, including men's clothing, shoes, etc., had been identified by the owners and claimed.

The pistol used in the slaying has been identified as the weapon of a Barnesville resident, whose name the chief did not recall. He said the weapon was traced through records in the office of the ordinary of Lamar county and that the second gun had been claimed by the same Barnesville resident. The officer said both guns were taken in a holdup.

Altogether, Chief Harper said, the Negroes had assumed full responsibility of "six or seven" burglaries and holdups in the Barnesville-Milner area.

SIXTH NEGRO JAILED IN JACKSON SLAYING

GRiffin, Ga., Oct. 29.—Marie Mathews, Griffin negro, was arrested here last night by Sheriff Henry McWilliams in connection with the slaying of Chief of Police Thornton in Jackson late Wednesday. She will be held as a key witness in the trial of five others who are now being held in Atlanta.

The others are listed as Charlie Rucker, Raymond Carter, Lucius and Mattie Adkins and Jim Williams.

TWO NEGROES DIE IN TATNALL CHAIR

Ralph Benton, Walter Melton and Elton...

REIDSVILLE, Ga., Oct. 28.—(AP) Two negroes were electrocuted at the new Tattall state prison today for slayings a year apart.

Ralph Benton was put to death for the slaying of another Atlanta negro January 2, 1937, after hearing the state supreme court pronounced him guilty. He was saved once when the electric chair was moved here from the Milledgeville prison. His case was carried to the state supreme court twice.

A Folkston negro, Walter Melton, was executed for the strangling death of Jailer Pratt G. Mizell in an escape from the Charlton (Folkston) county jail. Melton, 28, was charged with gagging the aged jailer January 1, 1938. Melton's case also was carried to the supreme court.

5 Negroes Held In Georgia Murder

GRiffin, Ga., Oct. 26.—(AP)—Police arrested five negroes on murder charges today after the shooting last night of Chief T. Thornton, 55-year-old chief of police at Jackson, Ga., 21 miles from here.

Chief of Police J. S. Harper said four suspects admitted being involved in the shooting and accused the fifth man of firing the fatal shot. Chief Thornton was killed in an attempt to question three negroes in connection with burglary.

Chief Harper said the suspects to Atlanta for safekeeping, although he said there "was no particular excitement in Griffin."

CONFESSION BARED

IN DOUBLE SLAYING

Confession

Negro Suspect Implicates Another in Murder of

Man, Woman

10-29-38
ALBANY, Ga., Oct. 28.—(AP)—Sheriff O. F. Tarver announced tonight a negro identified as Shep Bruno, 50, had confessed participation in the shotgun slaying last September of Walton Moree, 33, a Worthy member of the I. O. O. F., and Mrs. Ernest Aultman, wife of a Daugherty county farmer.

He said Bruno implicated another negro listed as Chafus Peoples, 40, and claimed the latter fired the shots.

Both, he said, were charged with murder and removed today to an unnamed jail.

The bodies of Moree and Mrs. Aultman were found on a little used country road Sunday morning, September 27, a mile and a half west of Albany.

The woman's husband, arrested at first in connection with the killing, was released when a coroner's jury returned a verdict the victims had been shot to death "by a party or parties unknown."

Resort Operators Held In Slaying

Negroes Declared Hired To Kill Rector

10-28-38
BRUNSWICK, Ga., Oct. 27.—(AP)—Two St. Simon's Island resort operators were charged today with hiring two negroes to kill Charles H. Lee eight months ago, so the vice-hating rector of historic Christ Church would long oppose illicit gambling.

Police Chief J. E. Register, who announced arrest of the quartet on murder warrants, said one of the negroes, George Cleyborn, made an oral confession implicating the resort operators, Henry J. Cofer and W. H. Cofer, middle-aged brothers, and naming the other negro, known to him only as "Willie" or "Looney" as the actual slayer.

Dr. Lee, Episcopal clergyman, rugged and erect in spite of his 71 years, was killed near midnight Feb. 5 by a mysterious shot from the dark as he sat in the rectory preparing a sermon.

Chief Register quoted Cleyborn as reporting he fired one shot from outside the rectory window and missed. The rector moved about and then returned to his place. Cleyborn told officers "Willie" then said, "give me that gun" and fired the shot that killed Dr. Lee.

The police chief said Cleyborn recited that Henry Cofer gave him \$150 and the pistol to kill the clergyman and that W. H. Cofer hired "Willie" to help. He said he did not know what "Willie" was paid. The pistol Cleyborn said, was returned to Henry Cofer.

Attorneys for the Cofers said the brothers denied all connection with the case. The four accused were separated and held incommunicado.

FOUR ACCUSE YOUNG NEGRO OF FIRING GUN

Griffin Officers Capture Accused TrIGGERMAN After Hours of Search

PISTOL IS FOUND IN CAR

Weapon, Which Had Been Fired Recently, Studied by Atlanta Experts

10-27-38
(Telegraph's Georgia News Service)

JACKSON, Oct. 26.—A barefooted Negro youth sought as the principal in last night's slaying of Police Chief C. T. Thornton, was behind the bars in Fulton tower (Atlanta) tonight with four other Negroes accused of the officer's murder.

The arrests—made in quick succession today by Griffin police—closed the widespread manhunt and the police end of the case, officers indicated.

Residents of this Middle Georgia city meanwhile prepared to bury the veteran officer who had headed their police department 12 years and had served them for 16.

In addition they learned that Mid-

dle Georgia police authorities beneve arrest of the five Negroes not only has cleared up the slaying, but has brought solution to a baffling series of holdups in the Milner-Jackson-Barnesville area.

The Negroes were caught by Griffin police. Four were taken into custody a few hours after the slaying, and a fifth surrendered yesterday. All five were carried to Atlanta for safekeeping and Chief of Police J. S. Harper of Griffin said all five are accused of murder.

Chief Harper said the four Negroes arrested last night admitted being involved in the shooting here and accused the fifth man, arrested today, of firing the fatal shot. Chief C. T. Thornton was felled early Tuesday night when he sought to question three suspicious characters. Although shot through the heart, he fired three shots at the fleeing figures before strength flowed from his body.

The Griffin chief listed the five suspects as Charlie Rucker, 18; Raymond Carter, 23; Lucius Adkins, 28; and Mattie Adkins, 24, all of Griffin. The four were quoted as saying the fifth Negro, listed as Jim Henry Williams, 20, who moved to Griffin recently from Upson county (Thomaston) fired the shots which killed the police official.

Broad Search Held
Williams was the last caught today.

Feeling was intense here Tuesday night following the shooting. Armed townsmen, assisted by most police officials from surrounding towns and state highway patrolmen, put track dogs on the trail of the fleeing Negroes. The dogs were unable to make headway, however, and had to be called off.

Sheriff G. T. Thurston took charge of the chase immediately after the slaying, which brought out scores of Jackson residents armed with shotguns and rifles. After the dogs were able to trail the men only a short distance, Sheriff Thurston and other officers expressed belief the three had joined confederates and fled in an automobile.

For several hours yesterday morning, Griffin police, state patrolmen, deputy sheriffs and civilians searched through West Griffin for Williams. He broke away from officers Tuesday night when they took the other four into custody.

Williams was barefooted and bare-headed and was clad only in overalls and a sweater when he surrendered to officers.

Chief Harper said a pistol, which had been fired recently, was found in the automobile occupied by the Negroes. The pistol was sent to Atlanta for examination to determine if it bore prints. A report received here tonight said a print had been found on the gun but that no comparison had been made with the prints of the suspects. A second gun, found here, had not been fired.

So far as was known here, Williams had made no statement about the case.

While feeling subsided, members of Chief Thornton's family arranged funeral services for 2:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Baptist church. The Rev. H. B. Harrison, former pastor who moved recently to Norcross, is expected to conduct the rites if he can come here tomorrow, and burial will be in Jackson cemetery.

Witness is Found
Chief Thornton had been a member of the police department since soon after he came to Jackson 18 years ago. He had served about 12 years as chief of police and was regarded by public officials as a good officer.

It developed today that Henry Turner, proprietor of a local business concern who first became suspicious of the Negroes, was sitting in an automobile a short distance away when the fatal shots were fired into the 55-year-old chief's body.

4 Men, One Woman In County Jail

Jim Williams, 20, Is Charged With Actual Killing

10-27-38
Four men and one woman jailed in connection with the fatal shooting late Tuesday night of the Jackson, Georgia, police chief, Charles T. Thornton, were being held in Fulton county jail Wednesday night for safekeeping.

All of the suspects were arrested in Griffin, four being taken from an automobile after police began a search of all cars entering Griffin. The fifth suspect surrendered to officers.

ALL CHARGED WITH MURDER

Each of the arrested parties was booked on a charge of murder.

Police Chief Thornton was reported killed when he questioned three men in an alley. The trio was believed responsible for a series of burglaries in Jackson and nearby towns.

ACCUSE 4 OF GUN PLAY

Police Chief J. S. Harper, of Griffin, said four of the arrested persons admitted taking part in the gun-play but accused the fifth man of firing the shot that killed the white man.

Those arrested were listed as

Charlie Rucker, 18, Raymond Carter, 25, Lucius Adkins, 28, and Mrs. Mattie Adkins, 24, wife of the latter, all of Griffin, and Jim Henry Williams, 20, who recently came to Griffin from Thomaston.

Williams was accused of firing the fatal shot. He was barefooted, hatless and wearing overalls and a sweater when found, police declared.

PISTOL FOUND

Chief Harper said a recently discharged pistol was found in the car in which the five suspects occupied.

Prior to the alleged confessions, 16 colored persons were arrested in Griffin as suspects. An early trial for the five persons was predicted Wednesday night.

Immediately following the shooting of the Jackson police chief, bloodhounds were put on the trail. Williams is alleged to have jumped from the automobile when police halted the machine around 2 a. m. Wednesday morning about a mile out of Griffin.

Killings - 1938

Georgia

Double-Slaying Laid To Suspect Held Here White Boy, 9, Accuses Smyrnan

Nobody Believed
Seriously Hurt

In Chasing

Only used
Smyrna, Georgia was the scene of a near mob early Monday night when a crowd of white citizens chased all colored people out of the business section.

Negroes residing in the residential section were not molested but those employed in cafes and stores, and others who make it a habit to loiter on the street corners after dark, were forced to take to their heels and scatter, Smyrna police officials said.

State highway patrolmen were called to the town to assist in handling the milling crowds.

OUTGROWTH OF MURDERS

The sudden uprising was taken by many to be the outgrowth of a double murder, which occurred late Saturday a few miles from Smyrna. Willie Russell, 40, was in an Atlanta jail Monday, held

in connection with the murders of a Smyrna white woman, her aged father, and the beating of the dead woman's son.

Colored people employed in the homes of white persons were advised earlier in the day to remain at their respective posts and not attempt to go to their own homes after dark, it was learned.

Details of the double-murder did not become known until Monday morning. Soon after the first report was made, colored citizens began to realize that anything might happen at anytime.

NOBODY SERIOUSLY HURT

Smyrna police officials stated Monday night that it was not believed that anybody had been seriously hurt. One spokesman revealed that the crowd that chased the colored people out of town consisted mainly of young white men and white boys of the little town.

Several persons who passed through Smyrna Monday night en route to Atlanta reported seeing a large crowd of white people milling about the town.

The killings were brought to light by the nine-year-old son of the dead woman. Unconscious for 30 hours as the result of a beating received from the hands of the slayer of his mother and grandfather, Cecil Pauls, made his way to a neighbor's house Monday morning and related the gruesome story.

BOY ACCUSES RUSSELL

Police quoted the boy as saying Russell took the lives of his mother and her father by beating them to death with an axe handle. Arrested around ten o'clock Monday morning on a construction job in Grove Park, near Hapeville, Russell is alleged to have surrendered.

POLICE QUOTE SUSPECT

Investigating officers quoted Russell as saying he didn't know a thing about it "because I was drunk Saturday night and Sunday but if the boy says I was there I must have been there. He wouldn't lie about it."

Police listed the dead woman as Mrs. Christine Pauls, 26, and her father as George Camp, 66, Cobb County old-age pensioner.

According to the son of Mrs. Pauls, the accused man visited their home about 11 o'clock Saturday night as he frequently did.

Young Pauls declared he heard Russell and Camp arguing and later heard a noise. The boy said Russell came back to the house about a hour later, carrying a heavy axe handle.

SAYS AXE HANDLE USED

The wounded youngster told investigating police that Russell beat Mrs. Pauls with the axe handle when she jumped out of bed and then clubbed him when he tried to help his mother.

Police said they found the body of the woman in her room. The body of the dead man was located about 100 yards from the house. Both had been beaten to death, the officers declared.

Young Pauls who remained unconscious 30 hours after being struck on the head, was carried to a Marietta hospital where he is now under observation.

Russell resided in Smyrna, it was reported.

Negro Is Arrested In Double Slaying

ATLANTA, Oct. 17. (AP)—Captain B. W. Searbrook, of the Atlanta police, said a negro listed as Wil. Drew Russell, 31, admitted today he ax handle slayings of 66-year-old Cobb County farmer and his daughter late Saturday night.

The battered bodies of George W. Camp and Mrs. Christine Camp Pauls, 26, were found at their lonely home near Smyrna early today after Mrs. Camp's nine-year-old son, Cecil,

reached a neighbor's house after 30 hours of unconsciousness.

The boy, battered about the head, said the negro struck him with the ax handle.

Seabrook, who questioned the negro, said he claimed Camp struck him first in an argument over which he contended Camp hit him. Seabrook said Russell's signed statement admitted he had been "drinking heavily."

The negro was arrested upon identification of Cecil, who said Russell lured his grandfather to the woods and killed him and then killed his mother in the house.

Deputy Sheriff J. E. Marler, of Cobb County, questioned the negro in company with Seabrook.

"Mr. Camp picked up a walking stick and hit me across the shoulder," Seabrook quoted Russell as saying. Seabrook said he then told of hitting Camp with the ax handle whereupon Mrs. Pauls set upon him with a baseball bat. Seabrook said the negro contended he did not remember hitting the boy.

MACON CHIEF NOT SURPRISED AT MANEUVER

Solicitor General Gibbs Says Cleyborn Claims He was

'Scared' Into Story
10-30-38
PROBE IS 'JUST BEGUN'

Case to Go Before Glynn County Jury Which Convenes Nov. 14 at Brunswick

JESUP, Oct. 29 (AP)—Solicitor General W. Ben Gibbs said today George Cleyborn, Negro, had repudiated a confession that he and a companion were hired to kill the Rev. Charles H. Lee, rector of Christ Episcopal church on St. Simons Is-

land last February.

Two St. Simons Island resort operators, Henry J. and W. H. Cofer, brothers, were charged yesterday with hiring two Negroes to slay the vice-hating rector to silence his opposition to illegal gambling.

Attorneys for the Cofers said they denied any connection with the case.

In his oral confession, officers said Cleyborn told them Henry Cofer gave him \$150 and the pistol to kill the aged cleric and that W. H. Cofer hired a Negro named as Willie Green to help. Cleyborn said Green was the actual killer.

Dr. Lee was preparing a sermon in his study near midnight Feb. 5 when a bullet from the dark crashed into his brain.

Solicitor Gibbs said Cleyborn was held in jail here, the others elsewhere.

The case will come before the Glynn (Brunswick) county grand jury which convenes Nov. 14.

The Negro said he told the original story "because he was scared," officials said.

Solicitor Gibbs said the investigation of the case had "just begun."

Watkins Unruffled

Police Chief Ben T. Watkins, who participated in work on the Rev. Charles H. Lee slaying on St. Simons Island which led to a "break" in the case, was unruffled by last night's report from Jesup.

"I'm not surprised," he commented when told that George Cleyborn, Negro suspect, had withdrawn a reported confession to participation in the slaying. "I rather expected it."

Chief Watkins had said previously he heard the Negro confess participation. He said last night the suspect's original statement was straightforward and was made under no threats or intimidation.

MRS. STEVENS WANTS POLICE TO GUARD HER

Telegraph
Fear for Her Safety Causes Woman Informer to Plead

for Protection
10-24-38
COFERS ASK HEARING SOON
Macon
Attorneys for Brothers Held in

Lee Murder Case Their First Point

By JAMES BURKE
(Telegraph Staff Writer)

BRUNSWICK, Oct. 28.—Macon and Brunswick investigators who "broke" the Lee murder case today converged on an unnamed South Georgia city and spent hours grilling two Negroes accused of having shot the Episcopal rector for \$150 furnished by the Cofer brothers, operators of St. Simons island gambling and liquor interests.

At the same time the investigators sought to strengthen their evidence, attorneys for Henry J. and W. H. Cofer sought an early hearing and a release on bond.

Herbert Ringle, attorney for the resort operators, described by Macon Police Chief Watkins as the "big shots of the little rackets," succeeded in having rescinded a court order calling for the transfer of Henry Cofer to the Ware county jail at Waycross.

The Cofers remained in separate cells in the Glynn county jail here.

Meanwhile the young Macon woman whose tip put detectives on the trail of the assassination solution went to police there and demanded that she be protected from possible harm.

Interviewed in seclusion, Mrs. Carrie Stevens did not report any threats made against her but requested that she be taken to a place of safety, preferably a hotel rather than a jail.

"Now that my name has been in the newspapers and everybody knows it was I who told the officers the first definite information, I don't feel safe here at home," she declared.

"I told it in confidence and I am going to expect officers to help keep me safe from harm."

Watkins Is Along

Chief Watkins headed the Macon group which included Detectives G. C. Britt and L. B. McCallum, chief figures in "breaking" the case yesterday. They were joined by a group headed by Police Chief J. E. Register of Brunswick and Solicitor Ben Gibbs of Jesup.

The Negroes, George Cleyborn, 28, and Willie (Nonnie) Green, 22, were brought from different jails to be questioned by the investigators.

Chief Watkins has named the pair as the "trigger men" of the Cofer's "little rackets" organization. Cleyborn, Watkins said, has confessed of participating in the killing of Dr. Lee, saying he and Green were hired to get the minister out of the way because he objected strenuously to the Cofer's illicit activities on the resort island.

Defense Attorney Ringle said he was pressing for a preliminary hearing for the Cofers but it seemed unlikely that he would be able to obtain it before the middle of next week because Solicitor Gibbs is attending court at Baxley and has said he would not be able to get back to Brunswick until next week.

"At that time," Ringle said, "we are hopeful of proving the innocence of the Cofers or gaining their release on bond pending further developments."

The Glynn county grand jury reconvenes Monday, Nov. 14, and Gibbs is expected to place the case before it then, seeking indictments to replace the murder warrants now standing against the four men. Unless a special session of the court is called, however, a solicitor to be named by the governor will try the case.

Gibbs is the Democratic nominee for congress from the Eighth District and, as such, is assured of election Nov. 8. He will take office in January and, since the next regular court session is not until that month, he will be the prosecutor only if a special session is called.

Dr. Lee was killed by the second of two pistol bullets fired through a window of the rectory. Although scores of persons were questioned, there had been no charges made until yesterday.

Chief Watkins, in revealing details of the investigation, said he and the two Macon detectives first conferred with Glynn county officials on the case Oct. 15, when he told Chief Register and Chairman Richard Gould of the Glynn county commission of the lead they had.

"Mr. Gould," said Watkins, "gave the investigation 100 per cent co-operation and offered to defray the expenses of the investigators. He was the only county official we got any co-operation out of."

Macon detectives Britt and McCallum, and John Lowe, special Macon investigator who obtained the first tip from Mrs. Stevens masqueraded as intoxicated linesmen in the Cofer establishments. They possessed a description of the Negro whom Mrs. Stevens said obtained the money from Henry Cofer the night of the slaying.

The Negro finally was spotted and other evidence collected the chief revealed and arrest was followed by the full confession by Cleyborn.

The various persons responsible for breaking the case stand to collect \$1500 in reward money from island citizens, Glynn county and the state if the suspects are proved guilty in court. Chester Wynn another resort operator on the island offered a personal reward of \$500 for the solution of the case if it indicates that any "conditions" on the island were to blame for the killing. That offer was made the week following the rector's death.

Green has not admitted any part in the shooting up until the questioning session today when officers brought both suspects together in an effort to crack Green's silence and fill in missing details of the big time gang-like plot.

Chief Watkins said he had a witness who said he was offered \$150 to kill the churchman. This man refused. Watkins said, and shortly thereafter Dr. Lee was killed.

Another link in the chain of evidence revealed by the chief was Dr. Lee's appearance before the Glynn county grand jury Jan. 25. There he sought action against those not following his ideas of "right living" on the island. Feb. 5 the rector Christ Church was shot as he was preparing his sermon in the living room of the island rectory.

At that time, the chief said, the state of Georgia was dry but the Cofer brothers were operating various establishments on a "wide-open" basis. Other profitable sidelines with which Lee's interest threatened to interfere included slot machines ranging up to the 50-cent-a-time size, Watkins said.

Chief Watkins said the investigation was aided greatly by a chance remark by Mrs. Stevens that she had seen Henry Cofer pay Cleyborn \$150 on the night Dr. Lee was slain.

This statement, made to a member of her family while she was seeking parole from a robbery sentence, was repeated to Macon police. Authorities aided her in obtaining her parole, granted Oct. 12, and Register said the confession of Cleyborn was hastened by her identification of him as the man she saw the money handed to.

Mrs. Stevens pleaded guilty to an attempt to rob a liquor store operated by the Cofers, Chief Register said, and was sentenced to three years on that and another burglary charge. Her husband, sentenced at the same time on a similar charge, still is in jail.

At the time of the arrests yesterday, Chief Register said Cleyborn had confessed being hired by the Cofers and named Green as the actual slayer. The defendants have been held incommunicado and none has made any public statement.

Pip-Off Woman In Murder Case Asks Protection



MRS. CARRIE STEVENS

—Photo by Coke.

Seclusion and safety are the two main aims of Mrs. Carrie Stevens, 23-year-old Macon woman, who gave authorities the "tip" which police said enabled them to solve the mystery murder of Charles H. Lee. "If she had the money she'd take a trip and get away from all this trouble until she was needed in court," said her father, Walter R. McCoy, last night.

Mrs. Stevens yesterday requested police protection.

Police Chief Ben T. Watkins and Detectives L. B. McCallum and G. C. Britt had not returned late last night from Brunswick and no action had been taken in response to the request.

The young woman's father and mother joined in the request for protection for the state's star witness.

"I'm answering all door callers," explained Mrs. McCoy. "I'm afraid of Carrie ever going anywhere alone or even getting out of my sight."

Last night the mother and daughter walked from the McCoy home at 418 Plum street to visit relatives a short distance away.

The daughter previously had announced she expected to leave the Plum street address if arrangements could be made for her to stay at some other place.

She said she "wouldn't like" being held in jail or other institution "under protective custody."

"I much prefer living in a hotel where there is a desk clerk on duty day and night and where we have a telephone at all times," she said. "I want my mother to stay with me, and I want to be where there are lots of people near me so I could get help if I needed it."

Mrs. Stevens said she had expected that her information would be kept confidential until she was called to testify in court.

"Now that my name has been in the newspapers and everybody knows who it was that told the officers the first definite information, I don't feel so safe here in the home," she declared.

QUICK JUSTICE

Telegraph

Waycross Negro Under Death Sentence in Week

10-29-38

WAYCROSS, Oct. 28.—Less than a week after he admittedly shot and killed two "pals" at their rooming house near Manor, Clarence "Red" Sheffield, Negro, is under sentence of death in Ware county.

Sheffield shot Beane Ralls and Frank Green to death last Sunday morning, was arrested several hours later, and on Monday was indicted by the Ware county grand jury which was in session for the regular October term. The indictment was recorded within 18 hours after the crime was committed.

He was tried late Wednesday, convicted Wednesday night by a jury which deliberated but 18 minutes, and sentenced yesterday by Judge M. D. Dickerson. Date of his electrocution was set for Nov. 25 at Tattnall prison.

PRISONER, "SCARED" INTO CONFESSING, REPUDIATES STORY

Brunswick, Ga., Nov. 10—(Special) Held for weeks on a charge of participating in the mysterious murder last winter of Dr. Charles H. Lee, vice-crusading minister, George Cleyburn, farm worker, has completely repudiated his alleged "confession" to taking part in the crime, stating he was "scared into making it. What methods he claimed were employed in the "scaring" authorities have not yet revealed.

In the confession officials said Cleyburn had made, Willie Green and two white men, Henry J. Cofer and William H. Cofer, brothers, who formerly operated a resort on St. Simon's Island, where Dr. Lee resided were implicated. All three were arrested and, jointly with Cleyburn were charged with murder.

The minister was slain as he sat in the study of his home last February, by a bullet fired through a window by someone on the outside. Officers announced Cleyburn in the confession he is said to have made and which he now repudiates stating he took no part in the slaying, said the Cofer brothers had employed him and Willie Green to kill Dr. Lee for \$150, their motive being revenge for the crusade he was waging against vice conditions on St. Simon's.

Through the murder charges will not be withdrawn against Cleyburn and the three other suspects held, authorities states that in view of Cleyburn's repudiated confession, a new investigation of the killing will be launched immediately.

SHOT MAN, BROUGHT HIM TO HOSPITAL; O.K.'d BY DIXIE JURY

AUGUSTA, Ga., Oct. 13—M. E. Ulm, white 50-year-old Richmond county farmer, was arrested Sunday, October 2, at the University hospital and lodged in the county jail, in connection with the death of Willie Ferguson, 42, whom he had brought to the infirmary for the wounded man. The physician

Deputy Sheriff R. W. King said to the hospital. Ulm placed him Ferguson was fatally wounded in an altercation at the farmer's residence on the Brown's farm road, just off the Peach Orchard route near Hephzibah.

Deputy King said when he received a report of the shooting he hurried to the scene, only to find Ulm bringing the wounded man to the hospital in his truck. Ulm has given no definite information as why he shot.

JURY SAYS ACT WAS JUSTIFIED

A short time after his arrival at the infirmary, the victim died, and the farmer was lodged in jail pending a further investigation.

A coroner's jury, Monday morning, declared the shooting was justifiable homicide and Ulm was released under a \$1,000 bond.

The officer said the shooting took place in the rear yard of Ulm's home, after the farmer had ordered the man from his property. Ulm had been away from home earlier in the day, he said, and on returning went to his room and lay across the bed. A short time later, Ferguson and another man, came to the window of Ulm's room, to question the farmer concerning business matters.

MEN WERE LEAVING WHEN FARMER FIRED

A few words were exchanged, then Ulm ordered the two to get off his property. Both started from the yard, then the farmer got up from his bed, went for his shotgun and fired from the back door of his home at Ferguson, who proceeded about 16 feet down a path from the house.

Two shots were fired, the first striking Ferguson in the shoulder, the second knocking off his hat.

Shortly after the shooting, Ulm went to Hephzibah for a physician, whom he carried to his home for the purpose of examining

NEGRO IS SENTENCED TO DIE FOR ATTACK

Convicted Of Assaulting
Woman Near Airport

By United Press.
MARIETTA, Ga., Nov. 15.—Willie Russell, Cobb County Negro, today was sentenced to die in the electric chair Dec. 1 for the slaying of George Washington Camp, elderly farmer, and his daughter, Mrs. Christine Camp Pauls, 26.

They were found beaten to death in their home at Smyrna near here on Oct. 16. Mrs. Camp's small son was seriously wounded by the attacker, whom he identified as Russell.

Georgia Negroes Admit Killing Night Watchman

ATLANTA, Nov. 15.—(AP)—Detective Superintendent J. A. McKibben said today two negroes—one already under death sentence for murder—had confessed being involved in the killing of Thomas H. Herd, 57-year-old Atlanta night watchman, whose death had been listed as an unsolved crime since October 16.

McKibben named the men as Raymond Carter, 22, and Richard Smith, 30. Carter and two others are scheduled to die in the electric chair December 9 for the slaying of Police Chief Charles Thornton, of Jackson, Ga., three weeks ago.

First of the alleged confessions was obtained Sunday from Carter in the Jackson jail, McKibben said, and the second resulted from what Carter told detectives then. Each negro charged the other with the actual killing of Herd.

LEE SLAYING SUSPECT RELEASED RECENTLY

BRUNSWICK, Ga. —(SNS)—Willie Green, who had been held for questioning in connection with the slaying last February of the Rev. Charles H. Lee, white Episcopal minister, of St. Simon's Island, has been released. Solicitor General W. Benjamin, announced Wednesday.

Killings - 1938

Georgia

Party Cook Hurt While Drunk, Witnesses Testify in Ashburn

Student and Blonde 10-Cent Store Worker Give Versions of Chicken Fry

ASHBURN, Ga., March 22 (AP)—Guests at a midnight apartment party here Dec. 11 testified at a coroner's inquest today Azza Martin, 29-year-old Negress they had employed as a cook, suffered a head injury after being relieved because of drunkenness.

Missing 90 days, the mulatto servant was found in a dry creek bed last week.

Susie Mae Anderson, high school student, and Cecil Willis, blonde 10-cent store worker, said they took over the work of frying chicken for the party of nine young men and women after the hostess ordered Azza to sit down.

Miss Willis said Tom McNair, son of a filling station operator, and another boy "who wore glasses" entered the kitchen.

"Azza made some remark and pulled bottles in the apartment, but did not drink herself," said Miss Willis. "Why did you say before this hearing," asked Solicitor General W. C. Forehand, "that if the truth ever came out it would be the biggest scandal Ashburn ever saw?"

A moment later, she said, she heard a "noise like someone being slammed against a door or stumbling" and, turning around, saw Azza "had a gash in her forehead."

McNair declared the cook had leaped up and "ran against the door opening into the other room."

The mysterious death of the young Negress was docketed tonight for grand jury investigation.

"Azza Martin came to her death from causes unknown," the coroner's jury found. "Continue the investigation."

Landlady Testifies

Mrs. J. L. Evans, gray-haired widow who rented the apartment to Miss Ila M. Hickox testified "the young ladies came in after midnight and from then on it was a continual racket upstairs."

"About 3 o'clock in the morning," she said, "I heard somebody start down stairs. I could tell by the way they were walking they were carrying something heavy. I got up and looked out my window. I saw two boys carrying a bundle. It looked like a trunk. I said I thought the girls had moved out. I saw them put the bundle in the car and these two and some of the others went off."

Minnie Lee Worthy, Negro woman, said Azza visited the Worthy home the following morning, with a cut on her forehead, and said: "I must have felt some pain."

Miss Anderson said she saw whisky

appeared, she said no.

Solicitor Forehand repeatedly questioned Miss Hickox about a "missing sheet" and asked other witnesses time after time if they "saw Azza carried downstairs in a white sheet."

Ples Ray of Cordele testified he was in the kitchen at the time Azza was hurt, but didn't know what happened. He said he couldn't remember hearing anyone say he had "knocked hell out of her."

Irrked by the witness, Solicitor Forehand said:

"Is your hearing normal?"

"Yes."

"Is your sight normal?"

"Yes."

"Yet you testified you didn't hear the blow or see the blood on Azza's forehead or see Tom McNair trying to help her back to her chair?"

"Yes."

Ray said he saw two pints of whisky before he went to the Hickox apartment and saw another half pint bottle there.

Tom McNair testified he went to the party on the invitation of four boys "I met at the pool hall after I got off from work about midnight." He said he had "one or two drinks" before he went to the apartment.

Says Jones Had Two Pints

"About any whisky I saw after we got to the apartment, I saw Jones holding the two pints, one in each hand and he said one was for the drink and the other was for the chaser."

McNair said Jones was in the kitchen with him trying to keep Azza quiet in a chair because she insisted on helping cook the supper.

"Jones and Ila (Miss Hickox) went into the bedroom to dance and left me to watch the cook," he said. Previously witnesses had described the apartment as two connecting rooms, one used as bedroom and living room and the second as the kitchen.

"The Negro saw me look away to where they were frying the chicken and jumped up," McNair testified. "She ran against the door opening to the other room and cut her head. She said 'now see here Mr. McNair, you done made me hurt myself,' and I told her I hadn't made her do anything. Somebody handed me a towel and I wiped the blood off her forehead."

"Somebody suggested we take her home and I got her by the arm and carried her out. She pointed out the place where she lived and we left her in the road in front of it. I helped her out of the car and that was the last I saw of her."

Solicitor Forehand said the body was found three or four miles from this spot.

Flov Watson, diminutive Ashburn

girl, about 24, said she was in the bedroom and did not see or hear the Negro.

"It was my first and last party at Miss Hickox' place," she told the solicitor general defiantly.

HOMICIDES CLIMB TO TWENTY

Week - End Crime Is Over Active, City Police Find

ONE SLAYING

Gunfire which broke the stillness of late Saturday night resulted in the death of a man listed as Rufus Matthews, 34, of a Brooks alley address after the police reported by William Harris of 423 Buchanan street.

The shooting took place in an establishment operated by Harris on School street after Matthews is alleged to have walked into the building in a drunken condition and knocked down a stove pipe, police reported.

According to witnesses Harris is said to have reprimanded Matthews who is reported to have cursed Harris and then went into his hip pocket as if to produce a weapon.

Then someone turned the lights out and Harris is alleged to have left the place and returned with a pistol in his hand.

An altercation followed and Harris fired three times at Matthews with each bullet taking effect. Arrested by Officer J. O. Chupp one in the heart, mouth, and neck, after he had been summoned to investigators stated.

Witnesses to the affray were listed as Jesse Ford of 425 Buchanan street, who stated that he saw a knife away from

the victim, George McKinley of 449 Buchanan street who is reported to have been cut by Matthews, and "Tack" Williams of 319 Currier street.

A technical charge of murder and disorderly conduct was lodged against Harris who was released on a copy charge, with the case being set for March 26. The body of the deceased man was turned over to the Hanley company.

Mystery enshrouded the alleged shooting of Coleman Robinson, 22, of 561 Hammock place who was admitted to Grady Hospital in a serious condition suffering a gunshot wound in the lower abdomen.

Robinson told investigating officers that he was walking on Clark street near Martin street when he noticed several men examining a gun. A few minutes later he stated that he felt a pain in his stomach and reported that he heard a gun go off. He told detectives that he didn't believe the shooting to have been purposely committed.

Police are seeking Leroy Spencer, 20, of an unknown address in connection with an alleged assault committed on a woman who gave her name as Mozell Durham, 23, of 75 Piedmont avenue.

The young woman suffered the loss of an eye which was knocked out by a water glass said to have been in the hands of Spencer. Following the affray the victim was admitted to Grady hospital.

Brought to Grady hospital suffering from numerous stab wounds about the body, a woman listed as Lula Price, 28, of an Electric avenue address, was admitted to the hospital in a serious condition.

According to police reports the victim stated that she had been going with a man known as Wilmer Price of an Ira street address and that he had inflicted the wounds. However, she stated that she did not want him arrested.

Arrested by Officer J. O. Chupp after he had been summoned to 105 1-2 Decatur street by an unidentified man, two women listed as Margaret Perkins of 37 Glen-nan street, who stated that they saw a knife away from

held in jail on suspicion.

Officer Chupp reported that when he arrived at the mentioned address he found a woman who gave her name as Edna Del-shorter suffering from potash burns of the face. Witnesses stated that the potash had been thrown by Margaret Perkins, whose real name is Pinkie Duberry and is said to have just been released from prison.

Burglar broke into the residence of Rev. A. B. McCoy at 201 Ashby street early Sunday morning by entering a side door but failed to get anything. According to police records, a man was heard prowling in the house around 3:10 A. M., and when officers were summoned the culprit escaped.

Charlie Adams, 24, of 15 1-2 De-tatur street. Freeman Magby, 23 address unknown, and Raymond Magby of 674 De-tatur street were indicted on Sunday on suspicion of having held up M. Patterson of Ben Hill, Ga., and robbed him of \$26 in cash and other personal belongings. Adams was positively identified by the victim, who was sure about the others.

A siren valued at \$75 was reported looted from the Dunn Brothers Funeral Home, according to police reports.

22-Year-Old Boy Fatally Shot By Woman

Gunfire which broke the stillness of a cool April evening resulted in the death Saturday of Charlie Ellington, 22 year old youth whose address was not listed on police records and who is alleged to have been shot by a woman listed as Eva Glass, 28, 375 Orange street.

According to police reports, the deceased youth is said to have come into an establishment operated by Mrs. Glass and treated a disturbance and when she rebuked him, became engaged in an argument with her.

Following this, an altercation is reported to have ensued during which Mrs. Glass shot young Ellington twice with an "automatic," inflicting fatal wounds. The in-

jured youth was rushed to Grady Hospital where he was pronounced dead upon arrival.

TWO KILLED IN CITY AREA

A mild epidemic of shootings and cuttings in the Gate City during the week-end left two persons dead and many nursing wounds as police officials sought to stem the low of criminal activity.

Shot one time thru the neck with the bullet severing his jugular vein, a man listed as Little Johnny of the rear of 938 Myrtle St. was pronounced dead on arrival at Grady hospital after being rushed there via Hanley Company ambulance.

The shooting occurred around 9:15 Sunday night and according to police records, Bobie Wright, 43, of the above-mentioned address was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct and murder with the case being set for Tuesday, April 5.

The arrested woman stated that the victim had come to her home and threatened her. Calvin Rucker also of the same address, told officers that the victim had jumped on him, while R. E. Wright of 190 10th street reported to officers that he heard Johnny state that he was going to "kill them."

15 CENTS KILLING
An argument of fifteen cents is said to have resulted in the stabbing of a man listed as Edward Hurley, 28, of 631 Travis street who was treated at Grady for an ice-pick wound in the neck. According to the victim, he was stabbed by Clyde Jackson of a Fox St. address.

Thomas Waiton of 47 Howell St., was admitted to Grady hospital, suffering with a gunshot wound in the right chest. According to police reports, William Horton of 61 Howell street, and Leroy Benn of 392 Hilliard street were being held in connection with the offense. Albert Barnes of 487 Crumley street was arrested on suspicion of having shot into a house occupied

by Sophie Bell Jones at 578 Humphries street. Barnes denied the charges and stated that a man named "Lamar" had committed the crime.

Beauford Sharp of 49 Jackson street was admitted to Grady hospital, suffering with a gunshot wound in his thigh said to have been inflicted by Perry Barron of 55 Piedmont Avenue who gave up following the shooting. Barron stated that he shot Sharp when he drew a knife on him.

S. M. Collins, a student of Morehouse college, reported that someone had stolen his watch, valued at \$33, from him.

Nabbed after he is alleged to have tried to sell a bicycle to Sol Cohen of a West End address, Henry Johnson of 140 Devard St. was jailed on suspicion of larceny.

Ed Lee Stephen address unknown, was arrested on suspicion of "stabbing," after John Henry Smith, address unknown, had lodged a complaint with police that the above-mentioned person had assaulted him two weeks ago.

Colored Homicides

Up 2 Notches, 32

Two persons were slain over the week-end and another reported in dying condition as police sought to capture their assailants.

The first killing reported to police was that of a man listed as Willie Stanford, 36, of 36 Glenwood Court, who was shot one time through the heart early Sunday morning by a man said to have been Frank Lowe, alias "Pap."

The shooting occurred at a Eustace street address and according to witnesses listed on police records the victim is alleged to have been playing with a youngster named Charlie Lacy when someone sneaked into the house through the rear door.

Then Stanford is reported to have gotten up and started toward the door when Lowe is said to have come in and levelled the gun at him and fired twice with one bullet taking effect.

Mystery enshrouded the fatal shooting of a man tentatively identified as "A. Brown," address unknown who is alleged to have been shot at a Jackson street residence.

Little hope was held for the recovery of a man listed as Willie James of 261 Fraser Street, who was admitted to Grady hospital

suffering from an ice pick wound in the chest near his heart. Police were unable to garner any information concerning the affray, save the fact that the victim was stabbed by a woman.

WOMAN, 26, FATALLY SHOT

Miss Minnie Tinsley
Wounded In Head
By Escaped Shooter

GULLATT SOUGHT

Atlanta police tacked up another colored homicide Wednesday for the Gate City.

The passing of Miss Minnie Adams Tinsley, 26, of 542 Emmett street, NW, late Tuesday elevated the killing total for the year to 34, exactly ten more than last year this time.

Shot through the head with an automatic pistol, the young woman died before she could be carried to Grady hospital. The slug from the pistol entered the woman's head just behind the right ear and when she refused "to live with him passed out through the middle again."

Acting on testimony of witnesses, investigating officers and detectives started a search for Charles Gullatt, 28, of an Emmett street address. Gullatt is alleged to have fatally shot the deceased wounded another woman and then escaped in an automobile.

Police said the shooting took place in front of 542 Emmett street, NW. The dead woman was stretched out on the curb when the officers arrived.

Willie Tinsley, 22, was quoted by officers as saying the dead woman and Gullatt were separated. Two other witnesses, Mrs. Fannie Tinsley, 65, and Jim Robinson, 46, were quoted by police as saying they saw Gullatt shoot the deceased.

During the shooting, Miss Effie Bell Tinsley, 46, of 542 Emmett street, was shot in the right hand

and right arm by the gun wielder. She was rushed to Grady hospital in a taxicab.

2 DAUGHTERS SEE FATHER KILL MOTHER

Police Say Slaying
Came On Refusal
To Reconciliate

35TH OF YEAR

One blast from a single barrel shotgun Wednesday morning at 11:15 o'clock ended the life of Mrs. Annie Harp, of 292 Glenn Street, S.W. Witnesses were quoted by investigating officers as saying the victim was killed by her husband, Alonzo Harp, of Riverdale.

Mrs. Harp was shot in the right side of her body at the Glenn street address. Her two daughters, Mary Lynn and Luella, were eye-

witnesses to the shooting, police reported. They told officers that Harp came to the house Wednesday morning and killed their mother "to live with him again."

Mrs. Harp was dead on arrival at Grady hospital. Murdaugh Brothers funeral home is in charge of funeral arrangements. A search was started for Harp who is employed at Riverdale. City Detectives Hilderbrand and Taylor are investigating the case.

The killing gave Atlanta its 35th colored killing for the year. Police had registered only 25 colored slayings this time last year.

Killings-1938

Georgia

Who Killed Maggie Robinson?

It is now over five weeks since Mrs. Maggie Robinson, widow and storekeeper of Waters Avenue, Saxville, was struck down in her home and robbed by some unknown assailant. Her lifeless body was found by her son propped against the front door of their house. Blood streamed from a wound over her right eye and more blood gushed from a gaping cavity in the top of her skull. The killer had used some heavy blunt instrument and struck with all his might—he meant to kill, and did. Then he made off with the woman's apron containing her keys and money.

A preliminary investigation by police officers, the holding on suspicion of the dead woman's son (subsequently released by the coroner's jury verdict of 'death at the hands of persons unknown') and the case of Maggie Robinson apparently was past history. No word or sign has come from the police department that anything is being done to bring the murderer to justice. If anything is being done it is so concealed that no one—not even the residents of Saxville know anything of it.

Kind But Proud
Maggie Robinson, according to those who knew her was a good and kind soul. She was loved by the people of Saxville and respected too. Her little shop was a place where they went when they were in trouble or needed help. If a young man got mixed up in any scrape, Maggie Robinson would aid in getting him out even to paying money; if some man or woman was hard pushed for a dollar, Maggie Robinson would lend a hand; if someone wanted a little credit at her shop to keep body and soul together, Maggie Robinson would let them have it. It seemed hardly logical that one of those people should have so brutally taken the life of such a friend.

Stood No Nonsense
The consensus of opinion among both decent law-abiding whites and Negroes of Saxville is that the killer of Maggie Robinson is not to be found among their ranks. But, of course, there are other people living in and around that neighborhood. It is also known that Maggie Robinson was a woman that would stand up for herself. She did not take nonsense. She did not take kindly to certain Southern customs of treating colored people in a disrespectful and insulting manner. Further, Maggie Robinson had a tongue and she used it on any one who gave her cause, no matter who he was. No word or sign has come from the police department that anything is being done to bring the murderer to justice. If anything is being done it is so concealed that no one—not even the residents of Saxville know anything of it.

Robinson! The Journal is, however, of the opinion that sufficient effort has not been made to discover the murderer of Maggie Robinson. This apparent apathy is because Maggie Robinson was a colored person. The Journal also is of the firm opinion that the death of Maggie Robinson, taxpayer and citizen, demands the full extent of Police service and efficiency to apprehend her murderer! The Journal is of the opinion that the employment of recognized Police methods would have and can still solve the mystery of Maggie Robinson's death! And again the Journal asks this question: WHO KILLED MAGGIE ROBINSON? Our Police are expected to answer it.

POLICE WILL QUIZ TWO MEN TODAY; RAIN ERASES CLUE

Lay Leader Carries On Unbroken Series of Messages First Given by Charles Wesley in 1736. TRAGEDY LIKELY, DIVINE DECLARED

Wife Thought Shot To Be Backfire; Was 2d Cousin of General Lee. BRUNSWICK, Ga., Feb. 6.—While a lay leader of historic Christ church at Fort Frederica carried on unbroken the Sunday services started there in 1736 by Charles Wesley, police of Glynn county today sought vainly for more than a slim clue to the identity of the assassin who shot down

Dr. Charles H. Lee, the rector, in his home Saturday night as he prepared his Sunday sermon. Dr. Lee, told officers that "I don't believe he ever knew what hit him."

A trail believed to be that of the murderer was traced through the lush woodland back of the rectory to the vicinity of a negro roadhouse nearby—one of a number of "dives" friends said the outspoken rector had been actively fighting. Rain had obliterated the end of the killer's flight written in the muddy soil. There are several roadhouses in the vicinity. It was learned tonight that officers are pursuing the "dive" vengeance theory and that they had been informed of another possible motive.

Will Question Two. They plan to question two men in the morning, and have told friends privately that "they hope for a break sometime tomorrow." Several weeks ago, the Episcopal minister, a second cousin of General Robert E. Lee, told his wife: "Some great tragedy will have to occur before Glynn county will have law and order." "This," said S. C. Durand, headmaster of Sea Island school and a close friend of the slain man, "looks like the tragedy. There are many dives on the island which Dr. Lee, myself and others have been moving to have cleared out."

Thought It Backfire. The distinguished rector was found dead on the sofa in their living room by his wife 10 minutes after the bullet, which she took for an automobile backfire, had torn through the window. The copper-jacketed slug struck him in the rear of the building and the right temple, came out the left ear and ranged through the walls of two rooms. The shot was fired just before midnight Saturday.

Coroner J. D. Baldwin revealed no clues other than the now obdurate trail, asserted the weapon was probably a revolver, "because life probably would have been saved. A first shot, fired a half an hour before the fatal bullet, also penetrated the window glass and lodged in a far wall, passing only 12 inches from the rector's head. This had been mistaken by the rector and his wife as an automobile backfire and after investigation of the noise they returned to their pursuits. They did not notice the small hole in the window.

"Do All in Name of Lord." Clutched in his hand as he died—probably instantly—was the text, "Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of Lord Jesus." It was based on the words of St. Paul.

Dr. E. H. Egbert, a physician

Durand, who was called to the rector's house for assistance just after the shooting, explained his statement about the tragedy by saying that Dr. Lee had been disturbed over what he described as vice conditions in Glynn county of which the island is a part. He quoted Mrs. Lee in her husband's premonition of tragedy.

Mrs. Lee Aged. Mrs. Lee, friends said, was "holding up wonderfully" under the strain. She was in bed and under the care of a physician however, and four members of the coroner's jury took her testimony at the bedside. She said that after hearing the second shot and still unaware of what it was, "I opened the window and looked out. Except for an automobile going toward the pier I saw nothing."

The jury recessed today until Tuesday, awaiting further investigation. From physical evidence, officers said they had determined the shots probably were fired by a person standing at the corner of the rectory garage. The living room is at the rear of the building and a large thicket is behind the house. The killer made his escape over a fence and through this thicket. The shot was fired just before midnight Saturday.

Chief Godwin, saying he found no clues other than the now obdurate trail, asserted the weapon was probably a revolver, "because life probably would have been saved. A first shot, fired a half an hour before the fatal bullet, also penetrated the window glass and lodged in a far wall, passing only 12 inches from the rector's head. This had been mistaken by the rector and his wife as an automobile backfire and after investigation of the noise they returned to their pursuits. They did not notice the small hole in the window. Neighbors could not throw any light on the shooting and were "dumbfounded" by the tragedy, Coroner Baldwin said. He quoted them as saying there was "always a lot of shooting in the woods back of the rectory."

Officers discounted reports involving in any way the negro cook of the Lee's, who has been a

trusted servant for years. A man, friend of the cook, was questioned today, but released when he established an alibi showing he was in Brunswick at the time of the shooting.

Dr. Egbert, who had been Dr. Lee's physician for many years, said Mrs. Lee at first thought her husband had suffered a stroke.

"I can't imagine why anyone would want to kill him," he said, "unless he found out some one was not living straight. He was very outspoken to individuals and insisted that everyone around him live right."

Friends of the Episcopal rector declared he was retiring in public. He had never campaigned from the pulpit, but was most outspoken in private.

Powerfully Built.

Lee was a tall, powerfully built man, standing more than six feet two. He weighed around 250 pounds. Mrs. Lee said he was educated at Hampden Sydney College, in Virginia, and at the Virginia Theological Seminary.

He entered the ministry in 1893 and served at Leeds Parish, Va.; Greenville, Ohio, and Jackson, Tenn. He taught school in Brunswick, near here, before entering the ministry.

Charles Wesley, founder of Methodism, served as the first rector of Episcopal Christ church. He came to Georgia with General James E. Oglethorpe, who established the first colony in Georgia, morning. When Oglethorpe established his colony he set up Fort Frederica, on St. Simons, as a buffer state between English Georgia and Spanish Florida.

St. Simons Island has an area of about 19,000 acres. It has a population of approximately 1,000. Most of the year-around residents are engaged in fishing, the naval stores industry or are connected with resort establishments.

Even as the coroner's jury and police continued the search for clues, a lay leader, John McGee, held a simple prayer service at the church to keep unbroken the chain of Sabbath messages begun there by Wesley.

Historic Church.

Christ church is the main Protestant church on the island. Many members of its congregation have been the nation's notables vacationing on this coastal island.

Calvin Coolidge, attended services at the church in 1929 when he was President of the United States. Mrs. Herbert Hoover has been there. Industrialist Henry Ford has traveled from his Ways, Ga., plantation to hear Dr. Lee preach.

Pastor at Macon.

Previously he was rector at St. Paul's Episcopal church at Macon for more than 15 years.

Survivors include three daughters, Mrs. Dwight Day, of Portsmouth, N. H.; Miss Lucy Carlisle, of Cooperstown, N. Y., and Mrs. Ralph Skylstead, of Long Beach, Cal., and a sister, Miss Eliza Lee, of Gloucester, Va.

WIFE HELD IN PISTOL SHOT HUSBAND'S DEATH

Man Allegedly Beaten Up Mate Several Days Running PISTOL WOUND

A woman who accused her husband of beating her nightly for several days Saturday was in custody of officers charged with shooting him fatally early Saturday morning. The man's death was the ninth colored killing of violence recorded during the current year.

According to police reports, a call was made to Smith of 265 Chestnut street was 509 Hightower Street, S.W., sitting atop a table at 16 Ashby around 1:15 a. m. Saturday, where they found Aaron Chambers, 40, lying on the floor with a pistol wound of the right cheek below the eye. Mrs. Georgia Chambers, 36, reportedly met them at the door and told them she had shot her husband at the climax of an assault spree. She told them that he came home Friday night and started beating her, having committed the same at the night before. She said that when he followed her into the kitchen from the front of the house and threatened to kill her, she shot him fatally.

Lemmie Chambers, son of the slain man, allegedly told officers that he heard Mrs. Chambers call for help Friday night and that when he burst through a locked door, he found his father astride her and assaulting her. He said he went to bed and left them arguing only to be awakened later by the fatal shot.

Aaron Chambers was pronounced dead on arrival at Grady Hospital, to which the body was carried from his home. A charge of suspicion of murder was placed against Robert Jackson shot May-

Arrest Two In Murder Detectives Saturday held Carl Clark, 19, of 39 Bell Street, N. E. and John Graves, 20, of 326 Butler Street, on suspicion of murder in the recent slaying of George McNeal, of an old Wheat Street address.

PISTOL SHOT WOUND IS FATAL

Tenth Killing Comes When Man Shoots Another Sunday MUCH VIOLENCE

The advent of mild temperatures signified a step-up in violence over the week-end as guns, knives and other implements of destruction sent one man to his death and half a score of others to Grady hospital.

At 1:55 Sunday afternoon, according to six witnesses who will re-testify to the fact to police, Harold Smith of 265 Chestnut street was sitting atop a table at 16 Ashby street, when a man, allegedly Burdell Moss, of 122 Walnut street, calmly walked up and aimed a pistol at the former. The weapon snapped the first time but discharged the second time and sent a bullet through the man's head at the left temple. A local undertaker took charge of the body and Burdell Moss was arrested on charges of suspicion of murder.

Fight Victims Treated

Police stumbled into a titanic fight at 3 o'clock Sunday morning at 16 A Electric avenue with the result that one person is at Grady in a very serious condition, the chief offender is at large and five men and women are locked up after undergoing first aid treatment at Grady.

Records show that Dorothy Johnson was bludgeoned over the head with the handle of a shotgun fired from his home. A charge of suspicion of murder was placed against Robert Jackson shot May-

belle Foster in the right leg; John Lumpkin stabbed Zephirin Merri in the back with a knife and Booker Bellamy also stabbed Maggie Weems before making good his escape. All the participants reside on Electric avenue.

Louise Watson, 24, Rear 251 Tecumseh Drive, was shot in the left leg late Saturday night allegedly by Willie "Smoky" Wyatt, 30, of 9 Ripley Alley.

Police jumped Julius White, 155 Woodward Avenue, and Willie Williams, 282 Angier Avenue, in the act of moving a car in the wee morning hours near the intersection of Angier avenue and Bedford place. White was arrested, but Williams ran away. He was later captured and carried to headtempting to move it after it stalled.

Flim-flammers failed to lure Florence Williamson, 214 Lawshe street, into their trap and so forced her to accompany them to the corner of Forsyth and Hunter streets where they robbed her of a small sum of cash, reports stated.

There were numerous instances of larceny and attempted hold-ups. White admitted that they stole the car and were again at

YOUTH SHOT IN "PLAY" DOES

Last Breath Gone As Ambulance Arrives At Grady Clinic SHOOTER FLEES

A 11-year-old youth was fatally shot at a Fulton Street cafe late Sunday night at the height of what was termed as "playing" by a number of persons buying and loitering in the place.

The slain boy, Rube McNeal, of 145 Alabaster Alley, N. E., address, was pronounced dead on

arrival at Grady after an ambulance had rushed him there from 218 Butler Street, N. E., the alleged scene

of the shooting.

McNeal's death marked the eleventh colored violence killing in 1938.

According to witnesses and police, he was killed by a single charge from a single-barrelled shotgun in the hands of J. B. Maddox, alias "Big Red," 29, of a Vernon Place address.

Investigating officers were informed upon arrival at the shooting scene that several people were in the place and had been "playing" with each other. Suddenly, "Big Red" went behind the counter, seized the shotgun and a shell, loaded it and then leveled it on the victim, saying, "Lookout, you all, Little Rube is the one I want." He then fired.

Following this, according to witnesses, "Big Red" exclaimed: "Lord, have mercy. I've done shot Little Rube. Somebody do something for him." He then fled.

NEGRO GIVEN DEATH IN RANGE MURDER

George Thomas Tells Court He Was 'Too Drunk to Remember Anything.'

Less than one month from the day he mortally wounded and clubbed C. Gordon Haston on a rifle range, George Thomas, negro, was sentenced yesterday to death in the electric chair. After a speedy trial, in which the jury deliberated only 20 minutes, Judge Paul S. Etheridge sentenced Thomas to die at Tamm prison on Friday, May 13.

The negro was charged with the holdup of Mr. Haston March 26. The holdup ended in the shotgun shooting and clubbing on the range near the Cheshire Bridge road.

Paul S. Etheridge Jr., son of the presiding judge, and Emmett Baird were appointed by the court as counsel for Thomas.

Ed Stephens, assistant solicitor general, put up as witnesses county policemen who arrested Thomas as in Mr. Haston's stolen car.

Thomas sat huddled in his chair until called to the stand, where he stated he was "too drunk to remember anything that happened Saturday." He claimed county police told him he would be saved from the chair if he confessed

Killings - 1938

Georgia

12 KILLINGS HERE IN 2 MONTHS

Week-End Criminal Activity Reported At High Pitch MANY TREATED

Atlanta's 1938 official colored killing total rose to twelve Monday with the death of a gunshot victim who had been admitted to Grady hospital Saturday.

Ike Peterson, of 184 Louise Alley, passed early Sunday morning of a gunshot wound of the abdomen. His assailant was reported in custody of police.

Eighteen persons had been killed by March 1, 1937, in comparison to the twelve recorded thus far this year, according to Atlanta World records. This decrease of six persons dead of violence in a comparative period is taken as a good indication that such tendency is decreasing in the city. The total of violently killed in 1937 was 114 in comparison with 128 in 1936.

Several persons reported to Grady for treatment of wounds incurred during violence Sunday and Monday, but one of these victims had passed, according to reports.

Shot in front of 592 Ezzard St. late Sunday, Robert Elder, 35, of 50 Bradley Street, was in serious condition at Grady Monday. Arrested for the crime was Warren Davis, 23, of 95 Lucy street. Gunclowning and an argument lead to the altercation during which Davis was cut, police stated. The bullet went into the left side of Elder's stomach and lodged in his right hip, records showed.

Jim Cheney, 54, of the rear of 30 Capitol Square, had a possible fracture of the skull and a broken

rib, having allegedly been hit by a brick. His assailant, a Fraser street man, was said to have flung the rock when argument over a debt became heated.

Also hit by a brick was Arthur Murphy, 41, of 24 Davis Street, N. W. Murphy had a broken left rib which reportedly punctured a lung. Hit near his home, the injured man could give no reason why his assailant struck him.

A boy friend of Carrie Lou Hurt, 21, of 209 Courier Street, N.E., apparently caused her stabbing. She reported to police. Jealousy of another girl friend prompted the cutting, it was stated.

Two persons were found dead Sunday and Monday but their deaths were said to be of natural causes. They were Mrs. Eliza Burdell, who was discovered inert Sunday at the rear of 267 Vernon Place, and George Safford, 43, of 273 1-2 Auburn Avenue, N.E., found dead Monday at 285 An-

to records.

Robert Elder, 34, of 50 Bradley Street, died Tuesday afternoon at 1:32 o'clock, from a gunshot wound of the abdomen. Elder was shot in front of 592 Ezzard Street late Sunday. Arrested for the crime was Warren Davis, 23, of 95 Lucy Street. Davis suffered a cut wound, it was stated. He claimed that Elder was clowning with a gun that he tried to get him to put up and that the argument led to the shooting and cutting. The fatal pellet went into the left side of the deceased man's stomach and lodged in his right hip, according

to records.

KILLINGS UP TWO POINTS; TOTAL 14

Growing Homicide Figure Increased By Two Deaths

GRUESOME

The barometric indication of 1938 colored killing totals took a decided jump upwards Tuesday as March began its sojourn.

Two men died at Grady Hospital of wounds they received the latter part of February, a result of violence encounters.

Henry Glover, of the rear of 235 Garnett Street, died at 6:30 o'clock Tuesday morning. He had lain in a Grady ward, suffering a large

POLICE LIST 16TH CITY KILLING

Capitol Square Man Found Unconscious In His Yard

DIES AT GRADY

A terrific blow to the head with a brick proved fatal to Jim Cheley, 54, of the rear of 30 Capitol Square, Thursday morning at 7:30 o'clock. Cheley was admitted to Grady Hospital Sunday, February

27, after he found unconscious in his yard. Attendants said he suffered possible fracture of the skull and a broken rib at the time he was admitted. Police later arrested Luke Woodward, 40, of a Fraser Street ad-

dress, in connection with the crime. Two witnesses informed officer that Cheley and Woodward were quarreling about a debt out in the yard when they saw them last. Cheley was found later in an unconscious state from a brick blow. Taken to Grady, his condition remained serious until death. His condition prevented police from questioning him at length concerning the altercation.

Ernest Smith, 39, of 318 Piedmont Avenue, was bound over to the Fulton Grand Jury Thursday on a charge of assault to murder. He was accused of striking Robert Standifer, 28, of the same address in the head with a rock at the corner of Bedford Place and Courier Street about two weeks ago. Bond was set at \$500.

HOMICIDE NO. 17 REPORTED; TOOK PLACE ON FEB. 21

The revelation Friday that P. W. Heard, 24, of 92 Mangum St., had died at Grady hospital served to add another colored killing to the rapidly rising number of violence deaths in Atlanta.

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Heard died February 21 around 5:25 p.m. but had not been classified among the violence killing because the cause of death was listed as "empyema," a formation and collection of pus in the chest. The wounded man was admitted to a Grady Hospital ward January 30, after he was reportedly shot by a white man near the intersection of Whitehall and Hood streets. The white man, E. L. Henson, said he recognized Heard as the robber who held him up and assaulted him on December 23.

According to police the white man claimed that when he saw Heard January 30, the latter ran into him with his bicycle and knocked him down and later reached to throw a brick at him when he shot. The wounded man fled the scene and as later found

seriously wounded in an alley and taken to Grady.

CORONER'S JURY LAYS CRIME TO MISSING MATE

Strangled to death with an electric chord in her basement apartment at 673 Park Drive, NE, the body of a 32-year-old domestic servant was found late Monday night by her employer, M. M. Russ, white and Officer E. W. Wilson of the Fulton County Police Department. Mrs. Ruby Keith, employed fourteen years in the household of Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Russ, had been dead twenty-four hours when her body was found.

Several efforts had been made Tuesday to locate Carl E. Keith, husband of the dead woman. Employed on

a railroad section gang, Keith failed to report Monday and Tuesday, his foreman said. A railroad employee answering to the name of Carl Keith was taken from a train Tuesday morning at Athens and held for Fulton County police who made a trip there to identify him. Officer E. W. Wilson said "he was the wrong man." At an inquest held Tuesday night at the Hanley funeral home on Ashby street, a coroner's jury returned a verdict charging the gruesome crime to Carl Keith and recommended that a thorough investigation be made of the slaying.

When found by Mr. Russ and Officer Wilson, the body of Mrs. Keith was on her bed fully covered with a bedspread. She had on her houseclothes with the exception of shoes. A large green handkerchief covered her face.

The electric chord had been tied around her neck twice and made extremely tight by a slip knot which was located near the back of her left ear. Two small abrasions were observed on her forehead and a scratch on one of her cheeks. A damp towel was found beneath her body. Officers J. O. Perry and E. W. Wilson agreed that a piece

of paper containing figures that resembled lottery numbers, was under the pillow of the bed.

There were little if any signs of a struggle having taken place in the room. A piece of glass from the face of an alarm clock was seen on the floor. The clock was found later in a garbage can in the kitchen.

Mr. Russ said had it not been for the clock in the garbage can, he would not have known now that the woman was dead in the basement.

At the inquest Tuesday night, he explained that his wife had been vacationing in Miami and did not return until Tuesday morning. Mrs. Ruby Keith spent two weeks in Miami and returned Saturday.

"After Ruby came home she asked for Carl", Mr. Russ said. "She borrowed my car Saturday night and went to look for him. He arrived ahead of her and told me that Ruby is making a big fuss. When Ruby got back they continued to argue and I heard her say something about running him out of somebody's back door. I saw her again Sunday afternoon. When I came in late Sunday night, I found a note near the telephone saying, 'I have gone to mamma in the country,' and it was signed 'Ruby'."

Mrs. Russ told the Coroner's jury Tuesday night that the handwriting on the note was that of Carl Keith.

Mr. Russ, who is an Atlanta merchant, told Coroner Donehoo that Carl Keith's clothes had been the L and N railroad when two men approached the street car. He said one of his three pistols had been stolen since Sunday.

Mr. Russ explained that the dead woman had given her husband the key to the house when she departed for Miami. They had been married about eight months.

M. B. Rogers of 576 Fair street, S.W., under examination of the Coroner, admitted taking Keith to a Bedford place address Saturday night.

YOUTH BELIEVED ROBBER IS SLAIN

An alleged robber lay dead at a local undertaker's parlor Saturday, the victim of the gunshot of a street car motorman, whom he reportedly tried to rob.

The dead man, Albert Barron, of a McDaniel street address, was wounded fatally Friday night, according to police. When he attempted to rob L. L. Bobo, white, operator on the West Hunter Street carline of about 10th and 11th streets. An alleged companion of the slain man ran away as the shots rang out and is being sought by officers.

According to police, the operator had been warned by residents along the line that he might be held-up during the night, so he armed himself with an automatic in preparation for such a happening. He was said to be a new operator on the line and had robbery attempted on him March 1, the first day on the new route.

Motorman Bobo said that about 9:30 o'clock he was changing the trolley at the end of the line near the L and N railroad when two men approached the street car.

Immediately he recognized Barron, he said, as the bandit who had attempted to rob him and shot at him on March 1. Believing he might attempt the same act again, the operator said he drew his gun and started to get into the car when Barron told him to raise his hands. He said Barron ripped out gun and started to climb on the car when he started emptying his pistol chamber in the alleged bandit's direction.

Both men fled, the operator said, so he proceeded to call police. Mr. Bobo said he heard no return shots as he emptied his pistol chamber.

It was not long, however, before Mrs. C. A. Spence, wife of the well-known medic, of 76 Stafford Street, S.W., heard someone groaning in her drive way. Upon investigation, she found Barron in great agony on the ground. The alleged bandit's pistol was found nearby, three of the bullets having been fired, according to police. Mrs. Spence told police she had heard an exchange of gunfire.

Mrs. Spence called an ambulance

and Barron was taken to Grady Hospital. An examination revealed he had died en route to the clinic. Three bullets had lodged in his abdomen.

The operator later informed officers that this was the first time he had ever carried a pistol on duty. He said the man who attempted to rob him Tuesday night, following his assignment to the route was, unarmed and his resistance to the robbery attempt proved effective. Several years ago, the motorman said a group of white boys tried to hold him up, but he refused to surrender his money and took the pistol away from the youths.

Operators on the street car lines in the community where Barron was slain Friday night have been continually harrassed by bandits. Some one dozen street car hold-ups have taken place over the city since January 1, according to police records. One convicted bandit was given a long term in Fulton Superior Court several weeks ago when his alleged accomplice turned state's evidence and swore he committed four hold-ups on street car operators.

Argument Ends In Fatal Stab Wound To Man

Another colored killing was written Tuesday on the Atlanta Police records, following the belated report of the fatal stabbing of Melvin Harris, 24, of 360 Terry street, S. E.

Ben Harris, of 311 Terry street, told police Tuesday at 12:30 p. m. that Melvin died March 19 after suffering a stab wound at the hands of a woman. He said the stabbing took place on Terry street between Rawson and Woodward streets.

The slaying was the result of an argument, police were informed. A search was started for an 18-year-old woman, listed by Ben Harris as the slayer.

4 INDICTED IN FULTON MURDERS

Alleged Confessor To Rob-Murder To Be Given Early Trial 7 ORDERED HELD

The Fulton County grand jury Tuesday indicted four persons for murder. One of those indicted was George Thomas, of an Alabaster Alley address, who is alleged to have confessed to fatally poisoning a white man, C. Gordon Haston, of Roxboro road.

Attaches in the Fulton County Solicitor's office said Thomas will be given an early trial.

Robbed, beaten and shot March 26 on a rifle range near Cheshire road, the white man died Sunday night at a private hospital. The only known witness to the shooting is a colored woman who told county police she saw a man wearing a blue zipper jacket rob and shoot C. G. Haston. She said she was standing on a nearby railroad trestle at the time the incident took place.

Thomas, a young woman companion and another youth, Willie Westley, of Chestnut street, were arrested by county officers Monday following the crime when an automobile said to have been driven by Thomas crashed a tree near the Governor's Horse Guard.

The crash terminated a police chase. The officers declared they followed the car because it resembled C. Gordon Haston's automobile which was stolen the evening he was wounded.

Immediately after his arrest, Thomas said Westley shot and robbed the white man. Westley told investigators that he had not seen Thomas for one year until he met him two days after Haston had been shot. With Westley clinging to his statement, Thomas admitted the crime, taking full responsibility.

Others indicted Tuesday on murder charges were:

James Hawkins, charged with the fatal shooting on April 2 of Charlie Ellington; Rufus Porter, alias "Dock", for the killing on April 1, of Henry Wilbur, and Pat Yancey, alias "Andrew", for the ice-pick death on March 26 of Mae Foster.

Indicted on other charges were: Johnnie Curry, 21, criminal assault; Sam Hines and Charlie Williams, attempted murder.

MORA WHITE DIES OF GUNSHOT

Tuesday Death Gives Atlanta 33rd Killed In 1938 Violence

9 ABOVE 1937
The death of Mora (Monney) White, 29, of 883 Greensferry avenue, Tuesday morning at Grady hospital gave Atlanta its thirty-third colored killing of the year. The colored homicide record this time last year was 24.

33
Shot in the right side of his chest and once in the abdomen at one p. m. Sunday in front of 888 Greensferry Avenue, White died Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock.

Arrested in connection with the killing are James Johnson, 28, of 892 Greensferry, and Rufus Neal 23, of the rear of 562 Hopkins St. City Detectives said they are holding Johnson on "suspicion of shooting the victim."

Investigating Patrolmen Harpe and Pope listed ten persons as eye witnesses to the fatal shooting.

Two of these witnesses said White and Johnson were seen arguing in a cafe located on Greensferry avenue only a few minutes before the deceased was wounded on the sidewalk in front of 888 Greensferry avenue.

Killings-1938

KNIFE, GUN FATAL TO 2 MEN

Third Killing Listed
On Fourth Day Of
This New Year

ARRESTS MADE

A knife and a gun brought death to two Atlantans late Monday night and Tuesday morning sending the violent barometer well on its way during the new year.

3 One victim was slain by an enraged white man at an uptown cafe for unexplained reasons and the other died at the hands of one of his own race allegedly over a debt of fifteen cents.

CAFE VICTIM

John Thomas, 29, of 859 Mayson Turner Ave., NW, died at Grady Hospital at 6:10 A.M. Tuesday, approximately five hours after he had been admitted suffering a gunshot wound over the right eye. Police arrested Jack Gamble, white, 38, whose address was listed at a local hotel, and retained two white women as material witnesses. Another white man was sought when records were compiled.

According to police records, Vick Vallass, owner of the cafe stated that Gamble and the two material witnesses, together with another man were in the cafe around 1:15 A.M. Tuesday. For some unexplained reason, Gamble went into the kitchen, from which he returned cursing and asking who was boss around the place, the white man or the Colored person. Becoming more enraged, according to reports, Gamble told Vallass he was going back into the kitchen and kill Thomas. Though Vallass tried to persuade Gamble not to start any trouble in the place, ac-

cording to his testimony, the man went back, fired twice, then three more times at Thomas and left the cafe with the other patrons.

Found at his hotel later, Gamble is reported to have denied the shooting, but was arrested on suspicion of shooting another, pending Thomas' condition. The material witnesses stated to officers they did not know what the altercation was about.

MONEY ARGUMENT FATAL

Officers Tuesday were seeking a "tall, slim, yellow" man known as "Brother", for the fatal stabbing at Monday night of Robert Smith, 22, of 589 Simpson Street, NW. Smith was pronounced dead on arrival at Grady clinic, wounds over the left eye and left chest having caused death.

According to Ruth Glover, of 447 Jones Avenue, NW, she and Smith were walking along Vine Street around 11 o'clock Monday night, when she stopped at a stand at the corner of Vine and Thurmond to buy cigarettes. Inside, the witness told police, she was attracted to a violent conversation outside between Smith and a strange man. She said she heard the stranger ask the victim when he was going to pay him "that fifteen cents." A fight ensued and Smith was fatally stabbed. The unknown man fled.

WOMAN STABBED

Georgia, Mae McClive, 17, of Rear 448 McDaniel St., SW, was treated for stab wounds of the body late Monday night, reported incurred in front of a Hightower Street address. Officers arrested Mary Bell Peters, 19, of 519 Hollis Street, of the stabbing.

BRUNSWICK LISTS TWO KILLINGS

Visiting Shopper Is
Killed In Depot,
Police Say

BIG CRIME WAVE

BRUNSWICK, Ga.—(S N S)—Two people were killed here during the week-end, police reported.

Willie Williams was stabbed to death by Lacy McNeal around 10 o'clock Saturday night, and Lester Page was shot and instantly killed by Johnnie Jones late the same night.

Both McNeal and Page are in the county jail on murder charges, and both probably will be tried during the session of the court next week.

The stabbing of Williams occurred at the union depot just before the Southern Railway train departed at 9:50 o'clock Saturday night. Williams and McNeal, with a number of others, had been in the city on a shopping tour and had gone to the depot to return to their homes, when a quarrel started between the two. McNeal is alleged to have whipped out a knife and stabbed Williams in the neck, severing an artery, causing almost instant death.

Police were notified and rounded up all members of the party, including those who boarded the train and had gone to Chapel Crossing. However, McNeal was arrested at the station. He told officers that Williams cursed him and then struck him, after which he stabbed Williams.

The other murder was committed at the home of Marvin Owens, 2114 Cochran Avenue, late Saturday night, at which time Lester Page shot Johnnie Jones. In a statement to police, Page

stated that he and his wife had gone to the Owens' home, and a few minutes later Jones arrived and immediately began cursing him. Jones finally drew a knife, Page stated, and advanced on him, stabbing him once in the left side of his chest. While Jones stood near him with his knife still open, he (Page) walked to the mantle in the room, secured his revolver and shot Jones, the bullet entering his neck.

Another Stabbing

Matthew Powell was seriously stabbed Monday afternoon on Stonewall Street when he and another man, whose name could not be learned, became engaged in a fight. Powell received several painful gashes.

Five murder cases among colored residents are on the docket for the present session of the Glynn superior court.

Slayer Suspect Caught in Gun Battle in Patrolmen Battle Negro In Swamp

WAYCROSS, Ga., Jan. 16.—(AP)—State highway patrolmen fought a gun battle in a south Georgia swamp and captured a negro alleged to have shot and killed Deputy Sheriff Carey Thomas, of Clinch county.

The department of public safety reported today one of the patrolmen, Corporal J. E. Davis, was wounded slightly in the exchange late yesterday and the negro was shot in the arm.

Deputy Thomas was shot and killed Friday night as he attempted to arrest a turpentine operator.

Lon Sullivan, director of safety education of the department, reported Corporal Davis and Trooper J. R. Cook, of the Waycross district headquarters, joined a group searching for the slayer. He said the two, accompanied by three other men, came upon the negro in a swamp between Homerville and Valdosta.

Corporal Davis was shot in the shoulder but not seriously hurt. Sullivan said a bullet from Davis' gun broke the arm of the negro, who was listed as Isaac McBride. The negro was taken to a jail in another section. The department said the location of the jail would not be announced.

Deputy Thomas, on the force of Sheriff J. F. Poppell, was buried in Homerville Saturday. He leaves a widow and two children.

Stabbed Man Dies In Hospital Ward

Atlanta marked up its 36th homicide Monday, when Seaburn Red-Jones, 25, of 15 1-2 Woodward Avenue, died of stab wounds of the chest. He was admitted to Grady Hospital at 5:30 Sunday afternoon, May 1, and died at 1:22 Monday morning. Police had not listed his assailant Monday.

Willie Lee Griffin, 34, of 208 Fairfax Avenue, N. E., was in custody of police Monday, in connection with the Sunday stabbing of Miss Mattie Hanson, of 42 Woodcrest Avenue, N. E. The woman was wounded in the left chest, according to officers.

Slayer Suspect Caught in Gun Battle in Patrolmen Battle Negro In Swamp

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Georgia

STAB VICTIM IN INSTANT DEATH

Mary Cook, 42, Is Held As Suspect In Slaying WOMAN DENIES

The fourth colored killing of the current year took place late Friday night, according to city police reports.

Answering a call to Grady clinic where the victim had been pronounced dead on arrival, police stated they found Emery Kelly, 30, of 81 Horton Street. He had died of a stab wound on the left chest. Ambulance drivers

said they picked him up at the address around eleven o'clock.

Police later arrested Mary Cook, 42, of Rear 77 Horton Street, and charged her with suspicion of the murder. She is said to have denied the killing, but allegedly admitted seeing Kelly talking to someone before she later saw him upon the ground, stabbed. A knife, believed to be the weapon used in the crime, was found in the coat pocket of a woman beside the arrested woman and led police to the suspicion and arrest.

HOLDUP VICTIM POOR

Eddie Jones, 29, of 48 Mangum Street, was in poor condition at Grady Saturday evening, suffering from a gunshot wound which penetrated his stomach, allegedly inflicted by a would-be bandit.

According to records, Paul Lovejoy, 42, and Walter Lampkin, 34, of 45 Electric avenue, told police that Jones fell at their feet after staggering in front of their house late Friday night.

An alleged assailant, known only as "Lefty" was sought on the information of the wounded man. Jones said the men attempted to hold him up with a pistol and later shot him.

Suffering gunshot wounds on both sides of the face, George

Howard, 27, of 550 Orange Place was admitted to Grady hospital Saturday night. Police had not recorded the name of his assailant. Edward Streeter, 24, of Red Oak Georgia, was treated for a gunshot wound of the hand, said to have been inflicted accidentally while the victim was hunting. Streeter's injuries were not of sufficient depth to cause his being retained at Grady.

John Brankle, 20, of 156 Elm St. was admitted to a Grady hospital ward due to the seriousness of a stab wound of the left shoulder.

Fifth Homicide Of

Year Results

Suffering a gunshot wound in the abdomen, allegedly inflicted last Saturday afternoon, January 22, during an unexplained altercation. Clarence Harris, 27, of 84 McMillian Street, died yesterday morning at Grady Hospital. Harris' death was the fifth of its violent nature among Atlanta's colored populace during the current year.

Two Unknown Men Admitted To Clinic, But Dead On Arrival; Probe On New Year Rung In As 1937 Killing Total Stands At 114 Behind 1936

Numbers six and seven of 1938 colored killed were recorded around 11:15 a'clock Saturday night at Grady hospital when two unknown men were admitted dead on arrival.

One unknown man was picked up with a wide gunshot wound of the face big enough for a good-sized wal-lence among Colored people in Atlanta during the year, but inhabitants of the Gate City had reason to rejoice for the total was 14 behind the 128 of 1936 and 17 behind the 131 of 1935. None had been reported at check-up time last night.

The victim was listed at Grady hospital as Henry Fears, 26, of 91 Vine Street. He had been admitted on Christmas Day, December 25, suffering multiple lacerations of the body, and had died in the development of pneumonia. His death was said to have come at six o'clock, Friday morning.

Neither man had been identified by police at a late hour Saturday night.

Plummer Johnson, of the rear of 167 Clifford Street, had a badly slashed neck when admitted to Grady hospital Saturday night. Relatives said he stumbled into their home with the bad wound, from which he appeared near dead when admitted to the clinic. They named a suspect.

Gloris Widmans, 4, of 510 Strong Street, was dead on arrival from an auto mishap, reported as having occurred near her home. Details were not forthcoming.

Criminal activities were few, according to police, as the old year was replaced by the new. Instead sane, but noisy merriment appeared the watchword along with religious worship at different church centers. Scores of policemen were on duty over the city in special precaution attempt. Parties, dances and individual resounding rang out the old year. The roar filled the city of the midnight hour.

Summerhill Man's Gunshot Wound Fatal

The almost instant death of Arthur Robinson, 35, of 584 Connally street, early Saturday night gave Atlanta its 36th colored killing of the year.

Dead on arrival at Grady hospital, doctors said a gunshot wound of the left chest caused the death of Robinson. The victim was reported shot on Connally street, near his home.

Radio patrolmen and detectives were investigating the slaying at a late hour Saturday. Pollard funeral home will take charge of the body this morning, it was reported.

Gun Victim Dies At Grady Hospital

Atlanta's eighth colored killing of the current year was recorded Tuesday morning with the death of Eddie Cleveland, 31, of 257 Brown street. Cleveland was admitted to a Grady ward late Sunday night, suffering a gunshot wound of the lower part of the neck, from which the patient never emerged. He died Tuesday morning at 6:10 o'clock.

According to police reports, an argument with a neighbor resulted in the shooting.

Gas Gangrene From Gun Wound Of Leg Fatal To West Side Youth

C. W. Clark, 24, of a 704 Ella Street address, died at Grady hospital Wednesday. He had wound, according to the right leg since

Saturday. Death resulted from an infection of gas gangrene which set up in the wound, according to the police. His death was the fifteenth of violence during the current year

ers were told by Virgil Redmon, wife of the suspect, that she and Clark had been keeping company during the period her husband was in the chain gang. Out on parole about three weeks, Redmon allegedly had threatened to kill both his wife and Clark. Saturday night he shot Clark when he entered a dwelling at 548 Robbins street and saw him and his wife there, reports indicate

and the boy recovered in three days. The witnesses, who took place the latter part of February with the victims lingering into March. According to police records, Clark was shot by a Robert Redmon, 26, of 804 Sims street. Office

NIXON CASE

STARTLES

CHICAGO

Daily World
Alleged Killer A n d
Witness Tie-Up

At Inquest

PRESS INCITES

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Incited by inflammatory stories in the daily press on the race and sex angle of the slayings, police last week got enough "confessions" from Robert Nixon 18, to clear up practically all the unsolved murders and assaults of white women here in the past few years, and for a time it looked as if Nixon would "confess" to some slayings that took place before he was born.

Nixon was arrested for the brick-
slaying of Mrs. Florence Johnson,
wife of a city fireman, in her bed-
room on May 27. Mrs. Johnson, like
the rest of the victims, was white.
Immediately the Chicago Daily
Times, afternoon tabloid, whose
editor, R. J. Finnegan, poses as a
friend of some individual Negroes,
began to play up the racial aspects
of the case and list the other at-
tacks and killings in which Negroes
were believed to be guilty. The
Times harped on it so much that
special squads were called to guard
Nixon and Earl Hicks, his accom-
plice, from an angry crowd when
they reenacted the Johnson slaying,
and some members in the throng
did yell out "Lynch em." S. E.
Thomason is publisher of the Times.

Evidently moved by public feeling aroused through newspaper articles and at the same time seeing a chance to clear up the slate of unsolved crimes, police obtained "confessions" from Nixon saying he had killed and criminally assaulted four white women and a white girl here and in Los Angeles, including the murder of Mr.

Florence Castle Thompson at a lawyer in commenting upon Nix-Northside hotel two years ago. That on's confessions, remarked that the a Negro was the Castle murder method of police questioning, was doubted even by police because whereby in relays they take turns the evidence showed a black de-in questioning prisoners repeating posit on towels by the slayer, in-over and over the details of a giv-dicating the killer had blackened case, explains how a prisoner his face and hands. But when Nix-of the type of Nixon, finally is able on confessed, this fact was forgot-to repeat with seeming accuracy ten.

After obligingly confessing these Nixon was held by the police for and a few other attacks where the 10 days before he was permitted victim did not die, Nixon stretched to see lawyers, although daily paper out and, according to police, con-reports were given access to him fessed he was the one who attack-for interviews. Atty. Charles Bur-
ed Miss Virginia Austin in herton of the National Negro Con-
room last August in the Washing-gress and a white attorney of the
ton hotel. Currently serving a five International Labor Defense finally
year prison term for that attack secured permission to represent
is Robert McCall, white engraver, him in an effort to secure some
and a resident of the hotel, who semblance of fair and legal treat-
was jailed when he molested otherment on the part of the police.
women there. McCall confessed, **Atty. U. Keys**
police said, and was convicted al-
though he denied in court that he
was guilty and fruitlessly pleaded
the police forced him to admit he
was the assailant in order to clear
up the case.

Whites were jubilant and plans were underfoot to free McCall. Thursday he appeared before Judge John C. Lewe in criminal court with his lawyer and a petition for his freedom. But Nixon didn't act as they had expected. He repudiated his confession—and despite all efforts to get him to say he attacked the white Miss Austin, he still claimed he was innocent and said he had no idea where police got his alleged confession. So McCall went back to prison.

There was another flare-up in the case at Mrs. Johnson's inquest. Her husband, going to the witness stand, suddenly swung and hit Nixon in the nose, drawing blood. A few moments later, Nixon saw his chance and, springing from officers, hit the husband on the back of the neck and tried to choke him, but police subdued him. The inquest adjourned speedily.

From the manner in which Nixon has behaved since his arrest (he has changed stories many times, denied statements the next day that he made the day previous, and through it all has shown no emotion whatever), many are of the opinion that the youth is criminally insane and given to imagining things that never actually happened.

Wendell E. Green, noted crimin-

Because he believes that Robert Nixon and Clarence Hicks, accused of the brutal brick slaying of Mrs. Florence Johnson, white, are innocent, Defense Attorney Olysses Keys made known his decision to withdraw from the case late Thursday morning.

Attorney Keys and Attorney Sylvester White were the first lawyers to enter the case, seeking permission to intercede in their behalf while both youths were held incommunicado following the slaying. Because of the sensationalism with which the case was treated by the daily press, the Daily Times' lurid and highly colored stories, (some claim imaginative for the most part) the most flagrant example of this type of out-moded news reporting, many expressed the opinion that both boys were being "railroaded" to the chair.

Nixon, who confessed to the murder, and to several other slayings of similar nature, later repudiated his "confessions" claiming they were obtained under police duress, and brutal third degree methods.

Despite this however, an all-white jury, deliberating only 75 minutes, following a trial which went on for almost two weeks, found him guilty, and he was sentenced to die in the electric

chair on October 21. His accomplice, Clarence Hicks, in a surprise move during the first day of the trial, changed his plea of not guilty to guilty, after the prosecution stated it would waive the death penalty in his case.

Attorney Keys, when interviewed concerning the case, stated:

"I am withdrawing from the Nixon case because I believe both boys to be innocent of the slaying. Hicks, recently from the south, obviously changed his plea to not guilty to save his own neck."

Motions for a new trial have already been filed, by the defense, the attorneys pointing to the whole atmosphere of the trial as highly prejudicial to the 18-year-old condemned slayer. Hysterical stories in local newspapers before Nixon and Earl Hicks were made to "confess" were also denounced as being prejudicial to Nixon's rights.

The Curfew Law

BECAUSE success, so far, has attended the efforts of police and state prosecutors in their attempt to pin the murder of Mrs. Florence Johnson, white, upon an eighteen-year-old Negro youth, Nixon by surname, a sort of hysteria seems to have swept the district east of Cottage Grove avenue, and, if reports are true, certain hysterical whites have invoked the aid of police in keeping Negroes out of that district at certain hours after dark. In short, citizens of our group are being subjected to a curfew law in that locality, and may not, if whites and white policemen have their say, traverse the streets of that district after a certain hour at night, no matter how honest or upstanding that colored citizen may be, or how urgent his business in that locality.

Now, if this sort of thing had happened in some Dixie town, as it often does, we would have no cause for expressing surprise. We are fully aware of the depravity of the southern whites, and are in nowise shocked by any of their acts of imbecility in race relations. But this thing has happened right here in Chicago, a city boasting Yankee proclivities, and for a long time, in times past, looked upon as a haven of freedom for the oppressed of all races. Because of this, the setting up of, or the attempt to set up, boundaries

which Negro citizens may not cross at certain hours, is, to say the least, both shocking and aggravating. It is an act without reasonable foundation, matters not whether Nixon actually slew the fireman's wife, or whether he was convicted of the crime merely on circumstantial evidence.

If the white people of Chicago hold to the tenets of the arch bigot, Shufeldt, and, along with him, believe that the Negro is a beast, why have they dealt with him after the fashion so long practiced by them in inviting Negroes to their city in times of labor shortage, and in mingling with them freely upon occasions that suit their own interests? The answer to this is that the sane white people of this city know the Negro to be as human as they are. But, and it must be said to the discredit of so large a city as ours, there are among us whites who either have imbibed the insidious spirit of southern race prejudice, or else they are trying to test the manhood of the Negro to see just how much ill-treatment he really will stand for at the hands of his traducers.

We condemn this so-called curfew law, not only as un-American, but as a direct thrust at the honor and integrity of our whole colored citizenry.

Chicago Cops Dismissed in Negro Killing

Daily Worker

Civic Groups Win First Such Victory in City's History

By **Harold Preece**

(Special to the Daily Worker)
CHICAGO, Sept. 11.—Two Maxwell Street Station policemen were discharged permanently by the Civil Service Commission Saturday in a smashing victory for West Side civic groups against police brutality. The dismissal of the two for complicity in the death of John Robinson, West Side Negro, after a police beating was the first time in Chicago's history that Negro and white organizations, working together, have been able to secure action against official brutality.

The two officers—John Bower and Fred Herman—were first ex-

Illinois.

posed as the slayers of the 33-year-old Negro by the Daily Record. The other officers, Edward Brown and Bernard White, were ordered to return to their posts for "lack of sufficient evidence."

Hailing the discharge of the two officers as "one of the greatest victories for civil rights ever won in Chicago," Branch Ray, president of the West Side Citizens Organization announced yesterday that a delegation would demand manslaughter indictments against Bowen and Herman from State Attorney Thomas J. Courtney today.

"We feel that on the whole, the decision of the commission was fair, considering all the outside influences that were brought to bear on the commissioners," Ray said.

LAUDS DAILY RECORD

"Last but not least, we wish to express our public appreciation of the fine work done by the Daily Record in exposing the brutal murder of a fellow citizen.

"Along with such organizations as the International Labor Defense and the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, it has stood with us shoulder to shoulder; and our victory would not have been possible without its cooperation."

Nixon Gets Third Stay; Supreme Court to Hear Case; Youth to Die Nov. 18 Unless High Court Says No

The third reprieve was granted Robert Nixon, 18-year-old accused slayer, under sentence to die in the electric chair next Thursday morning. The death stay was granted his attorney, Joseph Clayton, Tuesday to permit him to complete a bill of exception that will be presented to the state Supreme court.

Chief Justice Michael L. McKinley of the Criminal court, set Nixon's execution for Friday, Nov. 18, declaring that it will be his last stay unless the supreme court intervenes.

Nixon was convicted of the brick-slaying of Mrs. Florence Johnson, white, in her home early on the morning of May 27. He has repeatedly denied killing the woman, charging that the confessions on which he was convicted were obtained under police duress.

NIXON'S DEATH DATE EXTENDED TO DECEMBER 1

State Asks Time To Sift Defense Move For An Appeal

The third and final stay of execution which was granted Robert Nixon late last week with the next date set for Friday, Nov. 18, was extended to December 1 by Chief Justice Michael L. McKinley in Criminal court.

The extension was granted when the state's attorney's office asked time to examine a bill of exceptions obtained by attorneys Joseph E. Clayton and Richard Westbrooks, counsels for Nixon.

The bill, along with briefs will be presented before the State Supreme court in an effort to gain an appeal.

Nixon and Earl Hicks, 18 and 17, respectively, were arrested and tried for the brick-murder of Mrs. Flor-

ence Johnson, white, who was mysteriously beaten to death in her home at 4631 Lake Park avenue, on the morning of May 27.

Hicks escaped the death penalty by signing a confession in which he admitted accompanying Nixon in an effort to steal a radio from the Johnson home. Hicks later repudiated this, saying he was forced into signing it.

Nixon has refused to deny and complicity in the murder.

Killings-1938
6

Illinois.

SIX MURDERS IN FIFTY DAYS STIR WABASH AVENUE POLICE

Following close on the heels of the fifth and sixth mysterious murders in the Fifth district over the past 45 days, Commissioner Allman issued orders shifting Lieutenant Walsh to Morgan Park and sending the veteran Albie Boone to Wabash avenue to replace him.

Two weeks ago the ballistics department of the coroner's office notified Capt. Ahart of Wabash avenue that the four murders that were talked up against his district between Dec. 10 and Jan. 10 were perpetrated by the same criminal, it being revealed that examination of the fatal bullets showed that they were fired from the same revolver.

Two More Killed

Then early last Thursday night Leon Watts, 40-year-old butcher, 4002 Calumet avenue, was shot to death by an unknown assailant. The killer left no clues, merely committing his deed and vanishing in thin air. The police grew panicky.

Over the week-end, special squads from the detective bureau and other police districts were temporarily moved into the Fifth for several raids, which, it had been hoped, would trap the killer. The information had gone wrong and the drive proved fruitless.

Defying the concerted police drive, the lone killer continued his reign of terror and death when he sneaked upon Charles Jackson, 41 years old, 4635 Langley avenue, in the basement of his home and shot him to death. It was the second murder in three days.

Police Make Statements

Police officers and officials questioned at random regarding the wholesale slaughter in the district were divided as to the cause. Some presumed to blame it on the economic conditions, others on poor housing facilities, while a large number of them put the blame right on the doorsteps of the police.

"Practically every police district in the city is short-handed," one officer observed. "This is a serious situation in any community, but in our neighborhood which is so densely populated, and the economic status so acute, we need careful policing of the district."

Said another, "If there were more men in uniform and could be seen both day and night patrolling the streets, it is my opinion crime would be cut considerably. We have some good detectives, who do excellent work, but the thing of primary importance is not to catch a murderer after his dastardly deed has been done; rather, it is to prevent its commission. The department needs more policemen."

Six Murders In All

"Six murders in less than 60 days and not one of them solved is a reflection on the police," police sergeant asserted. "This record would be bad enough if they were scattered throughout the city, but just think, all of them occurred in a relatively small area."

Demand Some Action

Two weeks ago a committee was formed to call on district commanders and ask that each assign a Negro to desk duty on all three shifts, and that additional Negroes be assigned to special investigation. This same committee, apprised of the two murders over the week-end, promised to send a spokesman to the meeting next Monday of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance to solicit the aid of the pastors.

Police captains of the district in the immediate neighborhood are John Carton, Pekin; William Byrne, Stanton Avenue, and Michael Lahart, Wabash Avenue. They should be urged to demand more police for their districts, and in turn it should be demanded of them by the public that Negroes be given desk jobs and other places where they may be of invaluable help in correcting situations that lead to crime.

Chicago Negro Confesses 'Brick-Slaying' of Women

Deaths of Night Club Entertainer and Fireman's Wife
Cleared by Statement

CHICAGO, May 29 (P)—Confessions that he slew one Chicago woman with a brick and that he was present when another was similarly killed were attributed today by authorities to Robert Nixon, alias Thomas Crosby, 19-year-old Negro. Assistant State's Attorney John Boyle said Nixon confessed late last night he had beaten Mrs. Florence Johnson, 34, a night club hostess, to death in her hotel room June 29, 1936, and that he was in the home of Mrs. Florence Johnson, 34, wife of a city fireman when she was beaten to death with a brick last Friday morning.

Nixon, who the police said, was implicated by fingerprints in the killings April 24, 1937 of Mrs. Edna Worden and her daughter, Marguerite, 12, in Los Angeles, confessed Boyle said, that he entered Mrs. Johnson's South Side apartment to rob the place, but named Earl Hicks, 19, another Negro, as the slayer. Hicks was seized by police last night. He accused Nixon as Mrs. Johnson's slayer.

Mrs. Castle was slain in the presence of her 7-year-old son, Jimmy. The case took a mysterious turn when investigators found the words "black legion" scrawled with lipstick on a mirror in Mrs. Castle's room. The police said Nixon admitted he was the man who wrote on the mirror. Nixon is also suspected of slaying Miss Anna Kuchta, student nurse in a Chicago hospital, who was raped and beaten to death with a brick on August 20, 1936, but Prosecutor Boyle said he would not be questioned further about this crime until details of Mrs. Johnson's death were cleared up.

Prosecution Of Officers Urged By Ward Group

CHICAGO, Ill.—(SNS)—Four Maxwell Street Station policemen had been suspended Friday by Police Commissioner Allman for the fatal beating April 6 of John Robinson, 33, of Chicago's West Side.

Robinson died in the Bridewell Hospital after he was reportedly attacked by policemen in the apartment of Mrs. Viola Mays, 1232 Washington avenue, where he had been carried after being allegedly knocked to the sidewalk by Officer Fred Herman of the Maxwell Street Station.

Suspension of the four officers was considered a smashing victory for both colored and white organizations known to have taken an active part in carrying on the campaign for the suspension and prosecution of the accused officers. A Twentieth Ward Citizens' Organization was formed to prosecute the policemen.

Commissioner Allman announced that the four policemen—John Bowen, Ed Brown, Bernard White and Fred Herman—would stand suspended until they were arraigned before the civil service commission within the near future.

The four officers face the possibilities of being tried for murder as well as losing their jobs, it was stated.

"We will not stop with the suspension of these men," Napoleon Gillette, of the Twentieth Ward Citizens' Organization, declared.

The Rev. J. D. Campbell, instrumental in bringing about the suspension of the officers, said: "It shows what progressive colored and white people can do when they stand together for human rights."

Husband Beats Accused Wife Killer In Court

CHICAGO FEARS
NEW FRAME-UP

Chicago Man Leaps On Negro Charged With Murdering 5 Women

CHICAGO, August--(Harold Preece for CNA)-- It's a tough break if you are only 17 and accused by police of killing a man for fifty cents.

Crusader News Agency 8-22-38 New York N.Y.
Wesley Boatright, 17-year-old youth of 6502 S. State Street, was still rather stunned when police at Englewood police station led him back to his cell after he had signed a "confession" admitting the murder of Wesley Van Norman, white South Side molding manufacturer, last Friday night.

CHICAGO, June 7.--(AP)--Elmer Johnson, slender city fireman whose wife was killed in a savage attack, was called to the witness stand at the inquest into her death today.

Two hundred spectators lapsed into an expectant hush.

Robert Nixon, stolid negro, accused of slaying Mrs. Johnson, three other women and a young girl in brutal assaults, lounged in a chair near the front of the crowded room in the county morgue.

Johnson, grim but calm, stepped forward.

Suddenly, he lunged at the negro. He whipped a smashing left hook to the prisoner's nose.

The men in the throng started from their chairs and cheered. Women shrieked. Nixon, aroused, his upper lip glistening with blood, leaped toward Johnson. But 20 policemen separated the combatants and quieted the crowd.

While Johnson was led from the chamber, Earl Hicks, another negro, told the coroner's jury. He accompanied Nixon to the Johnson's apartment at dawn on May 27. He told how they crept through a window. He testified he saw Nixon crush the skull of Mrs. Florence Johnson, mother of two children, with a brick.

The jury decided Nixon struck the fatal blow but recommended that both he and Hicks be held on murder charges.

Chief of Detectives John L. Sullivan said Nixon had confessed killing Mrs. Florence Thompson Castle and Miss Anne Kuchta, of Chicago, and Mrs. Edna Worden and her 12-year-old daughter, Marguerite, of Los Angeles, in similar fashion.

In addition, the chief added, the negro admitted criminally attacking Miss Virginia Austin, of New York, and another young woman in a hotel here in 1936.

Thomas McCall, a white man of 39 was sentenced to five years imprisonment in the Joliet Penitentiary last December for the Austin attack. It was indicated he would be released soon.

Chicago police, others claimed, have a way of making a boy confess to any unsolved crime on the blotter.

In a nearby cell, Wesley's companion and neighbor, Charles Ainslee, 16, 6550 S. State Street, cringed in terror when he learned that the "confession" had implicated him as an accomplice for the sum of 35 cents.

A third youth, who is still being sought by police, is alleged to have got 25 cents of the \$1.10 supposed to have been in the dead man's pockets.

Observers were quick to point out that Robert Nixon, 18-year-old youth now under sentence of death, "confessed" numerous crimes during the time that he was held incommunicado at the City Detective Bureau, 11th and State, while Charles Price, 26-year-old youth, recently won a stay of execution until the State Supreme Court can review charges made by his attorney that he was "third-degreed" into confessing the murder of a white insurance salesman in 1936.

Killings-1938

Kentucky

BARS NEGRO JURORS IN KENTUCKY TRIALS

W'Cracken County Excludes
Them 'Systematically,' Says
the Supreme Court

RETRIAL WON IN MURDER

Government Fails to Get a
Test of the Repealed Act
for Cotton Control

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—The Supreme Court in a unanimous decision ruled today that "systematic and arbitrary exclusion" of Negroes from Kentucky jury lists had denied a fair trial to Joe Hale, a Negro convicted of murder.

The opinion, read by Chief Justice Hughes on his seventy-sixth birthday, reversed the Kentucky State Court of Appeals and ordered a new trial for Hale. The case involves a principle similar to that in which the Supreme Court held that a Scottsboro, Ala., defendant was deprived of his constitutional rights when Negroes were barred from the jury.

After handing down this decision and one other, along with some orders, the justices retired from the bench until April 25. All were present except Justice Cardozo, who is ill; Justice Brandeis, who stayed away Friday because of the bad weather, was in his seat.

Hale, indicted in 1936 in McCracken County, asserted in affidavits that, among 40,000 white persons and 8,000 Negroes in the county, 8,000 whites and 700 Negroes were qualified for jury service, but in 1936 only white names were considered. He declared that Negroes had been excluded from juries for more than fifty years.

"We are of the opinion that the affidavits, which by the stipulation of the State were taken to be as proof and were uncontroverted, sufficed to show a systematic and arbitrary exclusion of Negroes from the jury lists solely because of their race and color, constituting a denial of the equal protection of the laws guaranteed to petitioner by the Fourteenth Amendment," said the ruling by Justice Hughes.

In another Kentucky case the court, through an order, agreed to hear a challenge of the ratification in 1937 of the Child Labor Amendment by the Legislature, which had rejected it in 1926. Recently the court consented to review ratification by the Kansas Legislature, the question being whether the amendment proposal is still pending before the States.

Review was also granted of Georgia's fight against Federal admission taxes on intercollegiate football games engaged in by the Georgia School of Technology and the University of Georgia. Georgia asserts that the games come under the heading of "an essential government function" by the State institutions, but the government, which lost in the Fifth Circuit Court, says intercollegiate football is merely a "gigantic commercial activity."

Another order refused to the government a review of the constitutionality of the Bankhead Cotton Control Act, repealed by Congress after the court, in 1936, struck down the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

The Circuit Court decided that repeal of the Bankhead law, following the death of the AAA, showed that Congress considered the former invalid also, but the government demanded the review to clear the status of 470 suits for refund of taxes paid by cotton growers under the Bankhead Act.

Lee Moor, one of these cotton growers, brought the present case by insisting upon refunds on the ground that the Bankhead law was unconstitutional.

Frank Palko, convicted of killing a Bridgeport, Conn., policeman, failed to get a stay of execution.

Killings - 1938

Louisiana.

REIGN OF TERROR IN SOUTHERN LOUISIANA

POINTE LA HACHE, La. — (ANP) — "The reign of terror" that Negroes have been subjected to for the past three years in Plaquemine Parish, in the towns of Middle Grove, Rushville and Pointe La Hache, dealt another of its telling blows here last week when the body of Morris Miller was found by the United States Coast Guard below here last week.

Upon investigation it was learned that Miller was shot on the ferry that crosses at Pointe La Hache and thrown in the river, or he either was thrown in the river and shot. Fear-stricken Negroes are tight-lipped, even though it was learned that several saw the incident.

It is reported that Negroes have been terrified beyond belief for the past three years, and it seems that the only motive for the actions of the whites is to excite fear among the colored populace. Some three years ago a Negro was shot and buried on the spot. On another occasion, a Negro was taken from jail and put to death.

The League for Civil Rights and Justice, it is reported, will make a thorough investigation of the incident. Only 22 miles below New Orleans, and none of the dailies carried accounts of Miller's body being found.

"COVER-UP" OF INSIDE LYNCHING

HINTED

By LEON LEWIS

NEW ORLEANS — (A N P) — What appears to be a "cover-up" of a inside lynching was accepted by the Police department and the District Attorney's office as conclusive evidence that Aaron Boyd met his death from injuries received in resisting arrest after he had held-up a street car conductor at Napoleon avenue and the river.

In spite of the fact that officers investigating the cause of Boyd's fatal injuries report that he had struggled with officers who made the arrest, special investigations by United persons outside of the department have revealed information validating the signed affidavits turned over to the department. Boyd is reported to have a police record of 21 arrests. A World War veteran, he worked on the waterfront as a longshoreman.

This new sidelight on the case presents a new view against the contention of the police department that Boyd fell from a fence in trying to escape arresting officers. Persons living in the neighborhood of the victim have said that Boyd was peacefully apprehended as he stood in the gate of his yard when police approached. The stumps on which he was supposed to have fallen from a fence were found to be only blocks of wood lying in the yard. Next to the fence where he is reported to have attempted to escape is planted rows of corn equally high as the fence. The corn has not been disturbed and no signs or footprints are on the ground thereby. A tree limb also would prevent him from escaping by way of the fence, and his sight was not impaired.

The New Orleans public, white and colored, and the daily press, will be tried at Moore. They have are upset over the entire procedure refused to return voluntarily and, of investigation as reported by the police, and feel that Boyd's common-law wife made a false statement to the department as to Boyd's condition before the night of the crime.

The initial report handed in by the arresting officer lead to the belief that Boyd peacefully submitted to arrest after holding up the street car conductor, and caused some doubt as to the way

ne had met death. Reports after some words, Burden pursued Chief of Police George Reyer immediately following the discovery of Boyd's death led to a departmental investigation based on the coroner's finding in examination of Boyd's body.

The coroner's report was: "Death resulted from hemorrhage and shock following ruptured liver. Bruises across upper abdomen three inches above navel with skin discolorations of soft structures. Slight swelling of left cheek. Abrasions with elevation of small particle of skin on left index finger. Brush burns and contusions of left shin. Cause of injury undetermined."

HELD FOR KILLING 22 YEARS AGO IN LA.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Oct. 13 — Application has been made to the Governor Richard W. Leche of this state for the filing of a request to the governor of Michigan for the return of Ouchita parish Arthur Moy and William Moy, Jr., for trial in connection with the murder of Luther M. Burden, a white man, 22 years ago. An informant is said to have disclosed the whereabouts of the two Moys to Sheriff Milton Coverdale of Ouchita parish two months ago. The Moys at that time were living in Lansing, capital of Michigan, under the names of Ellis and James Woods.

If the Moys are returned, they will be tried at Moore. They have refused to return voluntarily and, as a consequence, Sheriff Coverdale is starting extradition proceedings against them. They are being held in jail at Lansing. It is feared that they will be lynched if they are brought back here.

The Moy brothers and their father are said to have become involved in an altercation with Burden in November, 1916. Burden lived in a section where Negroes were frequently beaten up. When

slingshots near his home. The Brouillete boy, wounded in the abdomen, died in a New Orleans hospital. His companion, wounded in the arm, recovered.

The senior Moy was tried for the crime and sent to prison, but the boys escaped and have been free ever since.

BOY, 12, GETS LIFE TERM

Louisiana Negro Guilty Of Killing White Boy, 9

NEW ROADS, La. — (AP) — A 12-year-old Negro boy was sentenced to spend the rest of his life in the state penitentiary yesterday when he pleaded guilty to shooting and killing a 9-year-old white boy.

Officers said Hubert Brouillete and a companion were playing with slingshots near the house of Walter Williams, Negro boy, when Williams went to a porch and fired at them with a shotgun. Brouillete was fatally wounded in the abdomen and his companion in the arm. The companion recovered. Judge Iris Dupont imposed the sentence on Williams.

Fight for 12-Year-Old Kid Given Life in Pen

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. (By Leon Lewis for ANP) — Attys. J. D. McNeal and Robert M. Haynie, retained by the Southern Youth Congress and the International Labor Defense, filed motion for a new trial in New Roads, La., this week in the case of 12-year-old Walter Williams, a Negro youth who was sentenced to serve life imprisonment in the state penitentiary. Sentence was imposed by Judge Iris Dupont after the kid pleaded guilty to the murder of a 9-year-old white boy.

COLORED BOY 12 SENT TO PRISON FOR LIFE TERM

New Roads, La. (ANP) — 12-year-old boy, Walter Williams, was sentenced to life imprisonment in the state penitentiary last week when he pleaded guilty to a charge of shooting and killing Hubert Brouillete, 9, white boy. Williams was 11 years of age when the shooting occurred.

It was charged that Brouillete and a playmate, Mayeaux, when they were playing with

TWO DIE AS TRIGGER MANIAC TERRORIZES TOWN IN MARYLAND

SILVER SPRINGS, Md., Nov. 25—Police squads swept through Race sectors of the city here last week making wholesale arrests in an effort to apprehend the slayer of two men who were wantonly shot and killed last Thursday night.

Mrs. Edna L. Brown, white, who was motoring with Peter F. Murray, deputy WPA foreman, the night he was slain, could identify the assailant only as being a Race man. She failed to recognize this man among a dozen or more suspects paraded before her Saturday.

Edward Roper, 31, second victim of the slayer's gun, died in a local hospital, Friday. Indications that the killer is a trigger-crazed maniac were seen by police after it was learned Roper had died of six bullet wounds and that no effort had been made to rob him. Murray also was shot six times.

All suspects are being held incommunicado pending further investigation of their whereabouts on the night of the slayings.

Killings-1938

Mississippi.

Trenton, Tenn. Gazette
January 27, 1938

SOUTH NEWS TO LINE IN North, and East.

MURDER CASE

VERDICT

Mississippi, as southern a state as there is in Dixie, perhaps more so than some, no matter what the belief(?) to the contrary, is hewing to the line, and has hewed to the line, when it comes to vital points of the law, irrespective of color or creed. The first man who was hanged in Mississippi, was changed for the murder of a slave, in 1821. The man was a newcomer to the state. He made the point that slaves were chattels—like animals—and that slaying could not, therefore, be murder.

The following is the court's reply, in this case:

William Clark Mitchell, who was sentenced to hang for the arson-murder of two Negroes, and whose sentence was commuted—because of reports of three disinterested mental experts—has been sentenced to life imprisonment.

The Magnolia State, it is said, as well as all of the South, presents legal incongruities on many sides. The South does not deny the charge, for, undoubtedly, there is some truth in it. However, if the South cared to retaliate, there is plenty that could be said, and truthfully. Lynchings are a shame to civilization, and those who take part, even if in the heat of anger, surely regret having done so. We are not so sure that this is the case with the calculatingly cold gangster type, so common in the Middle West,

stranger, power over the life of a slave.

"Such a statute would be worthy of the age of Draco or Caligula, and would be condemned by the unanimous voice of the people of this State, where even cruelty to slaves, much less the taking away of life, meets with universal reprobation."

The South has been condemned for so much that has not happened, and her accusers—as most accusers are—are of the lowest type. This country is ashamed that Congress will delay important legislation by such artifices as have been employed recently, as regards the anti-lynching bill. It should be known that those who are responsible for such dilatory motions, have ulterior motives, and those motives should not be hard to understand.

Negro Is Quizzed In 'Pecan' Slaying

CLARKSDALE, MISS., Feb. 12.—(AP)—Sheriff Lee Matthews, of Claiborne County, today arrested Henry "Son" Hardy, negro of Rescue Landing on the Mississippi River and questioned him in connection with the slaying yesterday of a white farmer, John Henry Lightly, of Ratio, Ark.

Lightly crossed the Mississippi River with his wife in a small boat to pick pecans at Rescue Landing on the Mississippi side and was shot in the back and left to die after he had been warned by a negro resident of the place not to carry away the pecans.

His wife was threatened by the negro but another negro interfered and in the meantime Mrs. Lightly escaped, got into the boat and re-crossed to the Arkansas side where she told officers that her husband had been shot in Mississippi.

Sheriff's officers started a manhunt for Hardy which lasted throughout the night in the swamps and woodlands along the river. Hardy was captured near Hillhouse and brought here to jail. He denied killing the white man.

The body of Lightly was found today by a squad of officers where he had fallen in the woods.

Planter, Tenant Slain In Quarrel

ROLLINGFORK, MISS., July 7.—(AP)—A white plantation owner and a negro farm tenant were dead today as a result of an outbreak of violence during an argument over discharge of the tenant.

Deputy Sheriff L. C. Hicks, of Sharkey County reported the county was quiet and that no further trouble was expected.

The white man, R. P. Flanagan, 38, of near Cary, was shot and killed yesterday during an argument with the negro after his refusal to give the tenant a grocery order.

The negro, Tom McGehee, 45, according to Sheriff M. C. Ewing, ran to a nearby house after the shooting and barricaded himself, heavily armed.

There a posse of white citizens led by officers exchanged shots with McGehee and killed him. Sheriff Ewing said McGehee resisted arrest.

Deputy Hicks said about 40 men took part in the posse action and that the body of the negro was left at his home for burial. He said he knew nothing about reports of mob action.

Hicks said an eye witness to the shooting of the landlord told him he tried to get the tenant to surrender his rifle to Flanagan at the outbreak of the trouble.

Relatives of the dead planter, preparing to board a Honolulu-bound steamer, were called home from Victoria, B. C., by his death. They were Mrs. R. E. Flanagan, mother of Flanagan and her sister, Mrs. C. T. Darden.

White and Negro Dead After Fight

Telegram
Tenant Kills Owner After Quarrel Over Dismissal

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NEGRO RACES TO FREEDOM
Escapes Cleveland Jail in Surprise Dash Past Jailer

CLEVELAND, Miss., Sept. 7.—Lonnie Hardeman, 35-year-old negro awaiting trial for the murder of two negro women, escaped from the Cleveland jail last night alone, unaided and unarmed.

Hardeman lunged past the jailer when the latter unlocked his cell door to bring him his supper and dashed from the building. He would have faced charges of first degree murder in December.

Officers said they hoped to recapture him shortly.

NEGRO SHOTS FARMER

Fires While Being Held, for Theft of Melons

COLUMBUS, Miss., July 22.—Columbus police this afternoon arrested Mose Mitchell, Lowndes County negro farmer, in connection with the fatal shooting early today of Sylvester Honeycutt, 60.

Honeycutt was shot and killed shortly after he found Mitchell in his watermelon patch. Pulling his gun Honeycutt marched Mitchell from the patch to the nearby Columbus garage where he asked Night Watchman Tom Godfrey to telephone police to come and get Mitchell. As the call was being completed Mitchell pulled a gun and fired at Honeycutt, who fired four shots in return. One bullet struck Honeycutt in the abdomen and he died a half hour later.

Honeycutt said before the shooting that Mitchell had pulled two watermelons. Honeycutt was caretaker here of the Tombigbee River Bridge.

He is survived by his wife and a daughter, Hattie.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a. m. tomorrow.

White, 2 Negroes Slain In Mississippi

JACKSON, MISS., July 22.—(P)—Sheriff R. E. L. Smith, of Lowndes County, said S. J. Hunnicutt, 66, bridge caretaker, was fatally shot at Columbus, Miss., today by a negro. Hunnicutt was being for arrest as a watermelon thief.

Two Mississippi negroes, apparently innocent, were killed yesterday by posses.

Sheriff Smith said Hunnicutt was attacked after forcing a negro from his watermelon patch to a telephone to call officers.

As the call was being completed he negro shot Hunnicutt and fled. The white man died immediately.

A negro booked as Robert Shelton was held at West Point in connection with the case.

At Canton, Claude Banks, 21-year-old negro, was killed last night after ignoring an order to halt by civilians helping officers hunt for another negro who had robbed and stabbed a white man.

Apparently innocent Banks was killed as he drove his automobile through a "blockade" designed to entrap the suspect.

Condition of the victim of the assault robbery, O. D. McAdams, Brandon, Miss., mill worker, was described today as not critical.

At Newton, Sheriff E. V. Buckley said Willie McDonald, 26, negro, was slain in attempting to escape after being arrested in connection with a plantation disturbance.

The officer said the negro, submitting peacefully to arrest, later struck Marshal J. M. Wells, of Newton, with a crutch and ran. The negro, Sheriff Buckley said, had a police record and was arrested yesterday on a com-

plaint he had entered a white tenant farmer's home clad only in underwear.

NEGRO IS KILLED IN SEARCH FOR ROBBER

By United Press.

JACKSON, Miss., July 22.—One Negro was dead and another under arrest at Canton, 25 miles northeast of here, today in the search for the robber of O. B. McAdams, white mill worker.

Claude Banks, 25, was shot and killed by a Madison County posse when he and Willie Jones, 26, another Negro, tried to drive an automobile through a cordon set up across a Canton road. Earl Pate, 26-year-old Negro, was arrested as a suspect.

The posse was formed to search for a Negro who stabbed and robbed McAdams, a Brandon, Miss., resident, in Canton late last night.

Jackson, Miss., News

August 21, 1938

HUGH'S NEGRO PROBLEM

Here's some information for that bright young man, Hugh Gillespie, who is telling the people that the negro question is now the most serious issue confronting our people which it assuredly isn't.

During the year 1937 there were 398 negroes killed in Mississippi in fights or difficulties with other persons.

Of this number slain 325 negroes were killed by members of their own race, 35 by white persons, and 38 by parties unknown.

That doesn't look much like a race problem.

The only real negro problem we have is trying to keep the negroes from killing each other.

Picayune, Miss. Item

August 18, 1938

THE "ABUSED" NEGRO

The Northern press and the Northern people continue to criticize the Southern people of their treatment of the negro. We are willing to say our Northern friends do not understand the situation and do not charge them with deliberate attack on the South. The Southern negro is as well satisfied with his situation in the South as he would be were he living in the North.

The treatment the Southern negro received at the hands of the Southern white people is so much better than the negroes treat themselves that there is no room for complaint on the part of the negroes or criticism on the part of our Northern brothers.

In 1937 there were 398 negroes killed in fights or difficulties with other people in Mississippi. Of this number slain, 325 were killed by members of their own race and 35 killed by white people and 38 killed by parties unknown. We dare say that if the large number of negroes living in Mississippi were turned loose in some northern state, those responsible for the homicides would have been reversed.

FARMER KNIFED BY NEGRO

Deftan In Serious Condition—Farm Laborer Hunted

GREENVILLE, Miss., Dec. 27.—Dewey Rogers, 26, farmer, of the Yerger community, was brought to the hospital here today for treatment of serious chest wounds suffered when he was attacked by Henry Wise, 50-year-old negro farm laborer, who was armed with a knife.

According to reports, Mr. Rogers asked Wise for money which he said was due him for sale of furniture and the negro pulled a knife and slashed him just above the heart and on the left hand.

Wise escaped after the stabbing and late today was being hunted.

Student Dies Of Wounds

Homicide Verdict Is Returned. Girl's Ill Feeling For Friend Blamed.

Elizabeth King, 15-year-old Lincoln School seventh grade student, is dead and Elizabeth Person, her classmate of the same age, is held for her murder.

Girl Is Held

The child prisoner showed no signs of emotions as she sat beside a juvenile officer in the defendant's chair at the inquest in the coroner's court Tuesday morning. Neatly dressed in a green cloth coat with an imitation fur collar and a black pill box hat, well built and with a defiant look that gave her the appearance of a girl of about 17, the brownskin student stood unmoved as she heard Deputy Coroner Quinn read the coroner's jury's verdict of homicide. Her mother, Mrs. Ophelia King, who had testified on the stand last night, was dumbfounded and yet struggling to stick by her only child, saw her led away to the detention building, one of the youngest persons ever held for homicide.

Wake To Be Saturday

The deceased girl lived with her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Mann King, and five brothers and sisters from 6 to 24 years of age, at 2653a Bernard St. She was wounded Wednesday, Jan. 19, and died last Tuesday, her 16th birthday. Wake for the victim will be held Saturday night at the home of her sister in laws, Mrs. Gertrude King and Mrs. Fannie King, 2700 Adams Street. Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at R. M. C. Green's Funeral home, followed by burial in East St. Louis.

Tell Of Trouble

The tragedy grew out of ill feeling between the girls, and the King girl being pushed on the Person girl just after they had

left school on their way home, it was brought out in the police report and testimony.

Police stated that both girls informed them that the King girl was shoved onto the Person girl by another student and the stabbing followed. Officers Middlebrooks testified the defendant told him she was carrying the knife, with which she stabbed her classmate in the left hip, and numerous times in the left breast, for protection. The knife was not recovered. The prisoner informed officers that she threw it in a sewer after the cutting.

Mrs. King, on the stand, told a rambling tale of her daughter's confession to her before she died at the hospital. It set forth that the girls had been pals and fell out. The pair had several misunderstandings thereafter and, the day of the fatal trouble, the mother said her daughter told her a student had informed the King girl that the Person girl was going to get her after school. She said the girl named a boy who was friendly with the Person girl and said she thought he gave her the knife just before the stabbing and that the knife belonged to the boy. She also indicated that the girl had trailed her.

Mrs. Person stated that her daughter came home with her waist torn the day of the trouble. She told her she had a fight with Elizabeth King. She did not know her daughter as much as she had a knife until police came to get her and told what had happened, she said. She stated that the girl was born in Arkansas February 27, 1922 and that they came to St. Louis about ten years ago. They resided at 2207a Adams street.

Let's Help the Law

What sense does not teach, fear-vict Negro slayers of Negroes, still it is must! This thing of one man killing up to us to set our own house in order another over a small gambling debt or first, before we demand that the prosecution do its duty. some other triviality has got to stop! Murder is no misdemeanor to be treated lightly with bloody-minded killers walking the streets to kill again!

It is a fact that the courts do not convict Negroes for killing Negroes like they do when Negroes kill whites. For that reason there are few murders of the latter kind, though the others are many. Even killings of whites in self-defense are rare. But every Negro with a temper feels no constraint where the object of his wrath is a member of his own race.

The conditions are known. The problem is what to do. The police and the prosecutors say they cannot get convictions of Negro murderers who kill Negroes because the eye witnesses refuse to testify. There is something to that charge, if true. The presumption of innocence which every accused person has makes it necessary to prove guilt. If the witnesses hide out, no amount of zeal on the part of the law can punish murderers.

We spend our time berating the prosecutors and charge them with not trying to convict. The regularity with which Negro women go free for killing Negro men offers a basis for that opinion. But since one part of the responsibility for convictions rests upon the public, that of furnishing testimony, the practical thing is for Negroes to take the mote out of their eye first, so that they can better see the beam in the prosecution's eye.

The killings in the underworld illustrate what happens among Negroes. The gangster has a code which keeps him from telling who brought about his death. His pals take up the trail and mete out punishment. But the law is powerless. It has no witnesses.

If we insist that the state is not as

diligent as it could be in trying to convict Negro slayers of Negroes, still it is up to us to set our own house in order before we demand that the prosecution do its duty.

Killings - 1938

New York.

Blades Cause Murders We checked with the cops at the 32d Precinct (West 135th street) the other day and learned that out of thirty-four murders committed in the area the precinct covers last year, twenty-four of them were committed by the use of switch-blades. (A switch-blade is a knife with a spring in the side, that when you press the little spring the blade flies out in "nothing flat." The blade is a fraction under four inches long.)

After this startling discovery we talked with Captain McElroy, the new head of the precinct, and he told us that most of the Harlem murders were crimes of passion. We also also learned that switch-blades are sold by pawn shops and some drug stores, to boys and girls. They cost anywhere from 50 cents for a cheap one to \$1.50 for a good one with a steel blade. Usually when a murderer uses a cheap blade to stab someone it breaks off in the victim's body. A good steel blade, however, never breaks off and the killer can use it later—if he wants to. We also were told that often a man or woman, adept in the use of switch-blades and defenses against them, will grab a cheap knife by its blade and break it in two, whenever an enemy tries to stab him or her. Of course, the intended victim usually cuts his hand severely, but he prevents his attacker from cutting his heart out—the greater of two evils.

Over in the 32d Precinct a detective has a desk drawer full of switch-blades he has taken from school children. He says that every time he sees a kid with one he takes it. He also relieves grown-up prisoners of theirs whenever he finds blades on them. This accounts for an additional collection the detective has in another drawer.

He said that a switch-blade wielder will plunge his knife into his hapless victim and turn the blade around, making a gaping wound. This trick usually causes the knife to break off in the victim, unless it is made of good steel. (The company that makes the best knives is the Schrade Company, in Bridgeport, Conn. Their knives are all steel and cost from a dollar up.)

Users of switch-blades are proud of their aptitude of slicing a guy—or gal. They often practice in their apartments by lunging to this side and that—like a fencer. But the worst of all are the guys who can whip their knives out and flick them open before you can say "Harlem." These experts boast that they can cut an enemy before he knows what happened to him.

It is estimated that more than 25,000 switch-blades are sold in

Harlem a year. In Chicago, however, even more are sold, because the "Windy City" is said to be the "switch-blade kingdom."

While writing this piece a flash came into the office that a man was found dead in a cellar at 11 East 133d street. As soon as the reporter re-

turned it was learned that the dead man had been stabbed with a switch-blade. Captain McElroy told us that he personally investigated a murder on 138th street, between Lenox and Seventh avenues, on Christmas Eve, and the victim had a switch-blade sticking in his heart. The Captain said that while the cops were out looking for the killer he walked into the station house and gave himself up. The murderer, he related, had been sitting in the basement of a house in 138th street with two pals, drinking "King Kong," when an argument started. The dead man, according to his assailant, picked up a club and tried to brain him with it. But before he could bring it down across the killer's head the latter whipped out his switch-blade and drove it in his friend's heart.

"And the poor bum was sorry he did," the captain said. "If the guys would lay off that 'King Kong' and stop carrying switch-blades twenty-four hours a day, there wouldn't be many murders in Harlem."

Two others were believed dying in Harlem Hospital. One Arthur Simmons, 131 West 133rd street, had a five-inch blade plunged into his chest Monday by a man identified as Al-lison Ray, 34, 60 West 118th street on the north west corner of 132nd street and Lenox avenue.

The second, occurring at 8:45 the same night, sent one Fred Henderson, 23, 9 West 119th street to hospital with a serious knife cut of the groin. Detectives McHale, Barts and Na-ton, arrested one Louis Hughes of 100½ West 150th street at 110 East 119th street.

1 Killed, 2 Believed Dying As Result Of Fights With Knives

Shortly before one o'clock Thursday morning a man identified as Albert Brown, a 27-year-old laborer of 408 Lenox avenue was stabbed in the neck during an altercation with one Charles Nelson. He died of his wounds in the Emergency Ward at Harlem Hospital. The fight is said to have begun in the Old Town Tavern, 2160 Fifth avenue, over a remark the deceased is reported to have made about some member of Nelson's family.

When the dispute became serious, the proprietor ejected the pair into the street and the fatal stabbing followed. Detectives Prinz, Bruck and Drake of the 32nd Squad notified the mother, Mrs. Susanna Brown of 54 West 133rd street who identified the body.

The perpetrator, who said he was Charles Nelson, 24, 18 East 132nd street, was apprehended the next day.

Cop Kills Negro; Protest Planned

National Negro Congress Calls Meeting to Demand Explanation for the Slaying of Edward McIver of Brooklyn

By Michael Kantor

The slaying of Edward McIver, 33-year-old Negro, killed at his home 678 Rockaway Ave., Brooklyn, last Saturday by a policeman, will be protested tonight at a large mass meeting at Granada Hall, 223 Livonia Ave., Brooklyn.

The meeting which is being held under the auspices of the Brownsville Branch of the National Negro Congress, will demand an immediate investigation by Commissioner Valentine of the Police Department and punishment of the policeman who shot McIver.

The case, one of the most callous and brutal killings ever perpetrated against the Negro people in the city, has aroused the entire section, which is heavily populated with Negroes.

McIver was killed instantly last Saturday by a policeman, who has since been exonerated by the officers in charge of the 73d Precinct. With the policeman was a Negro, Randolph Merrith, who previously to the shooting had been engaged in an argument with McIver.

The Daily Worker learned this week that Joe Hedgepeth, neighbor of McIver, who was called in to identify the body, in assailing the officer for the shooting, was told "there was nothing else to do" and "oh, so that's the way you feel about it."

Hotel Owner Held In Fatal Shooting Of Saratoga Negro

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y. Aug. 29 (UP). — Philip Weiss, hotel owner, was held today on assault charges for the fatal shooting of Jack Sylvester, 34, a Negro. Sylvester died yesterday at Saratoga Hospital with two bullet wounds in the abdomen. He was shot Thursday night on a street.

Police said Weiss admitted the shooting, pleaded self-defense.

He said Sylvester had attacked him after an argument over money. Weiss was held at the county jail in \$10,000 bond.

Killings - 1938

North Carolina.

MAN DIES FOR KILLING NEGRO IN \$4 HOLDUP

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 18.—(AP) The state of North Carolina put Milford Exum, 32, a white man to death in its gas chamber today for the \$4 holdup killing of a Jim Williams, 60, negro, and a few minutes later took the life of another one for the poison slaying of his own daughter in an alleged insurance plot.

Edgar Leroy Smoak, 40-year-old railroad car porter's helper, of Wilmington, died for the murder of his 16-year-old daughter, Annie Thelma, upon whose life he held a \$500 policy.

Wilmington, N. C. Morning Star
February 19, 1938

INTER-RACIAL JUSTICE

Yesterday at Raleigh a white man was executed for the murder of a negro. There had been no similar case since the first records of executions were started at state prison in 1910, and it is more than possible that no execution for such a crime by a white man ever before at any time took place in this state.

This case does not dispose entirely of the often-heard expression that in the south there is one law for the white man and another for the negro, but certainly it will lessen such criticism.

Much territory remains to be covered in the direction of better political and economic justice toward the negro in the south, but yesterday's example certainly constituted a convincing gesture.

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
February 23, 1938

Exact Justice

A few days ago, in North Carolina, a white man was executed for the murder of a negro. It was the first time that had happened in North Carolina. We don't know that it has happened anywhere else in the South. White men have served time in Southern states for offenses against negroes, but Southern justice has stopped short at the death penalty.

The North Carolina case was one of deliberate murder. The only plea that could be made for the murderer was that he was white, his victim black. The North Carolina jury, the appellate court,

the pardoning power, refused to recognize that as a defense.

When exact justice prevails throughout the South, as in this North Carolina instance, there will be an end to misrepresentations of the Southern attitude and to anti-lynching bills.

Killings-1938

North Carolina.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
May 25, 1938

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
June 20, 1938

RALEIGH, May 24—(AP)—Attorneys for Ed Alston, Durham county negro sentenced to death for murder, argued before the Supreme Court today that Alston was intoxicated when the crime was committed and that the killing was not premeditated. The negro was convicted in February of slaying Janie Wilkerson, negro woman, said to have been more than 100 years old, in a robbery.

Sigmund Meyer of Durham also argued that Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn, who presided at Alston's trial, erred in charging the jury that the negro must prove his defense of intoxication "beyond a reasonable doubt."

The Supreme Court took under advisement a motion by the attorney general's office that the appeal of Wiley Brice, negro sentenced in Alamance county to death for murder, be docketed and dismissed. Brice did not file a brief with the court.

In a case which may interpret North Carolina's racial segregation laws as applied to buses, C. J. Gates and E. R. Avant, Durham negroes, argued that Ellen Harris, another Durham negro, was unjustly convicted of violating a "Jim Crow" statute.

The woman was within her rights in sitting on the next to back seat in a bus, instead of in the extreme back seat which was partly vacant, her attorneys argued.

The State maintained that although the woman was within her rights in taking the seat, she should have moved when the remainder of the bus became filled with white passengers.

The State law requires negroes to sit to the rear of buses and white persons to sit to the front.

Among other cases argued were the State vs. Tommie Bradshaw, convicted in Alamance county in February of failure to support an illegitimate child, and the State vs. William Trollingere, Jr., convicted in Alamance in February of assault with intent to rape.

Oral arguments will continue tomorrow, with the cases of four negroes condemned in Forsyth county—Jackson Harvey, John Ernest Howie, Tom Linney and Melvin Petree—slated to be considered.

Opinions will be handed down tomorrow afternoon. Among the cases pending is an appeal from the death sentence pronounced on Bill Payne and Wash Turner, convicted of murder in Buncombe county.

Proving Justice

"I hope," said a South Carolina judge after a jury in his court had acquitted, on grounds of self-defense, a Negro woman charged with the murder of a white man, "that our friends from the North will hear of this verdict as it will show that a Negro can get justice at the hands of a white jury and, after all, that Southerners understand race conditions better than those elsewhere."

Those who are familiar with justice in the South believe that in most cases and in most courts Negroes have as much chance of justice as white people. But offering one case in evidence of that fact might seem to set that case up as something rare and strange which ought to be heralded abroad. If it is so rare and strange, it is evidence of just that Northern misconception which this judge seems to wish to combat. As a matter of fact, those who have observed Southern courts know that their judges and juries err as often on the side of leniency in cases involving Negroes as on the side of severity.

No one case, nor ten cases will prove the quality of Southern justice in dealing with Negroes. And the South's reputation for justice needs not a verdict by "friends in the North" but by the self-respect of the best Southern people. When the best men and women in the South are satisfied with the justice of Southern dealing with the Negro, the South can be careless of what even the noisiest Northerners may

think. Until the South itself is satisfied, no proof offered for Northern consumption will suffice.

July 25, SONS OF MAIA. 1938

Trial of an ABC officer at Durham on a charge of manslaughter in the killing of a negro bootlegger in a raid in which it is alleged a home was invaded without the use of a search warrant was eminently in order.

It does not, or should not, matter that the officer was himself injured at the time of the shooting; the big idea was to determine whether he was violating the law at the time he was supposed to be enforcing it.

The prevaricance of some of the Durham authorities and other folk with the Chapel Hill organization known as the Southern Committee for People's Rights which has been agitating the matter and helping with the employment of private prosecution is understandable; but after all a Durham negro is decidedly southern, is of the people and has rights which must be respected.

It is irritating at times to have such matters called to one's attention by neighbors; but if Officer Wilkie was all that his friends claim for him, the result could be only his vindication and that of law enforcement in Durham.

The jury, after deliberating somewhat less than an hour, in fact found the officer not guilty of manslaughter. This, according to the judge's charge, was explicit of a decision in the jury mind that the defense had sustained the burden of proving that the officer fired in self-defense. And the testimony developed that he was properly equipped with a search warrant.

There is, however, in this quarter, and we suspect in others, a bit of misgiving because of the haste with which the guardians of the people's rights sometimes call for action in advance of a real investigation.

An Argus such as the Southern Committee for People's Rights, it seems to us, should, too, occasionally consult an oculist to see if

some of its eyes are not slightly cocked.

But there is nothing whatever in the campaign conducted by the Chapel Hill organization to alarm the public—its membership is not secret, but signs its demands for action on the dotted line.

Negro Captures Own Son To Retain His 'Good Name'

By The Associated Press.

CLINTON, N. C., Nov. 27.—The story of an aged Negro who, to maintain his "good name with the white folks," captured his own son and surrendered him to officers to face a murder charge was related here yesterday by Constable E. B. Beasley.

The constable said that the son, Raymond Williams, faced a charge of murder in the slaying and robbing of Nathan Belf, 48, a salesman and merchant of Harrisburg, Pa., who was clubbed to death with an axe near here Thursday. A coroner's jury named Williams as the slayer.

The accused man's father is Ammie Williams, 69 years old.

Constable Beasley quoted the father as saying:

"I know my son will go to the gas chamber, but I want to see the right thing done."

Three other Negroes were ordered held by the coroner's jury as material witnesses.

Jury Found Negro Guilty First Degree

FORD TRIED FOR MUNN'S MURDER

Laurel Hill Negro Charged
with Crime of Hamlet
Taxi Operator

The trial of George Ford at Laurinburg for the murder of Bill Munn, a taxi operator of Hamlet came to an end today at 4 o'clock when the jury brought in a verdict of first degree murder. The judge passed sentence and the date set for execution is Friday, September 30, 1938.

Ford, according to the evidence induced Munn to take him from Hamlet to Laurel Hill on the night of July 23, but before reaching Laurel Hill they turned off the main highway and were stuck in the mud where Ford is alleged to have struck his victim in the head with a piece of timber while he (Munn) was in a stooping position trying to get a wheel out of the mud. Not satisfied with the one blow he administered several more and finished the job. The victim's pockets were rifled and a small amount of money taken. Munn was left lying in the side road and was later that night found by several colored men who reported their find to the Laurinburg and Hamlet police.

The seventh witness was on the stand when Scotland superior court recessed Wednesday in the first degree murder trial of George Ford, 20, negro, charged with the slaying near midnight July 23, of Eunice (Bill) Munn, 44, war veteran and taxi operator of Hamlet.

Policeman A. R. Gibson of Hamlet, who with Deputy Sheriff Frank Todd of Scotland county, arrested Ford, testified to the alleged confession voluntarily made by Ford to him and to Deputy Todd after Ford was rushed to the State prison and later carried to the Robeson county jail, because of threatened mob violence.

Despite sweltering heat, the courthouse was jammed almost beyond its capacity throughout the day. Aisles were crowded, and windows had to be cleared of spectators, time after time. A total of 107 men had been examined Wednesday afternoon, a jury of 13 was finally selected.

Of the total, five proved to be objectors to capital punishment. Nearly all the others challenged "had formed or expressed an opinion" that the accused was guilty.

Solicitor Rowland S. Pruett steered the case swiftly past the first six State witnesses, four of whom were negroes, whose testimony dealt with finding of the body behind Munn's car with head battered, and identification of Ford as the man who hired Munn late Saturday night to take him to Laurel Hill and back.

After his confession to officers Ford entered a formal plea of "not guilty," and movements of defense today indicates an attempt is in the offing to repudiate the confession.

Names of the jurors are: J. S. Beane, sawmill operator; Dagin Gibson, E. S. Gibson, farmers; Dan McGirt, farmer and newly

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nominated county commissioner; W. G. Buie, Jr., farmer; W. G. Shaw, merchant; W. R. Bullard, farmer; J. S. Thompson, farmer; D. C. Stewart, farmer; Alex McIntyre, farmer; A. B. Carpenter, bookkeeper, George V. McLeod, and the thirteenth junior, James McGowan, both merchants.

CONVICTION OF OHIO YOUTH TO BE APPEALED

Almost simultaneously with the return of a "guilty" verdict by the all-white jury in the Elyria, Ohio, trial of 21-year-old Edward Hemsley for the murder of Louise Hornbeck, the N. A. A. C. P. announced its intention to aid in the fight for a new trial. Cleveland Branch officers declared their intention to assist the youth, and announced plans for mass meeting to be held next week to raise funds for the necessary appeal and defense.

Hemsley, a house boy for the Grafton prison farm superintendent, was convicted in the face of a wealth of conflicting testimony, in the entire absence of eye-witnesses, and on purely circumstantial evidence. The only cogizance taken by the all white jury to the extremely doubtful evidence was their recommendation of mercy for a crime that ordinarily carries the death sentence with conviction.

He asked that Congress pass a resolution giving the Attorney General and the Department of Justice power to investigate each instance of mob violence with the view of getting the public full facts on the case. Failing to secure such power for the Attorney General, he proposed that the Congress establish a permanent committee to bring the facts to light.

Proponents of federal intervention in lynch cases, believe the first suggestion a more effective approach, since it would tend to empower the nation's "G" Men with authority to act in similar fashion as under the effective Lindburgh Law, the application of which has practically wiped out kidnapping.

Southern leaders, while for the most part silent, indicated that they would not accept either plan, and that chances for such action in the present session would in-volve another filibuster.

The surprising announcement from the White House took pains to recognize the threat that un-suppressed lynchings may have on labor activity in the south, particularly since the south's increasing industrial activities have given rise to a spirited labor organization program. Previously the "tar and feather" and whipping tac-

tics against legitimate labor organizers in southern states have been treated with the same non-chalance as the lynching of Negroes.

N. A. A. C. P. leaders, whose lobby for the bill attracted international comment, hailed the White House statement as a signal victory in their struggle for equal rights.

Killings - 1938

South Carolina

KILLED WHITE MAN: CAROLINA JURY FREES HER

WALTERSBORO, S. C., June 23—After a "lily-white" jury freed Lottie Kinsey last Wednesday on a charge of murdering J. Scott Padgett, white, February 21, Judge J. Henry Johnson told spectators in the court: "Our friends from the North will hear of this verdict as it shows a Negro can get justice at the hands of a white jury, and that, after all, all Southerners understand the grave conditions between the races better than those who live elsewhere."

Mrs. Kinsey claimed she shot in self-defense at her home after Padgett had hit her with a stick during a dispute. The Negro woman defendant in this case testified that the dead white man came to her house about three o'clock in the morning and they became involved in a dispute over a debt alleged to be owed by her. The dead man advanced on her with a stick and began beating her. She shot in self-defense, she said. And a jury of twelve white men believed her and acquitted her.

Greenwood, S. C. Index-Journal
June 17, 1938

A NOTABLE CASE

A Negro woman, Lottie Kinsey, was acquitted by a white jury in Walterboro, in this State, Wednesday of the killing of a white man, J. Scott Padgett.

Presiding Judge J. Henry Johnson commented on the verdict to this effect: "I hope our friends in the North will hear of this verdict as it will show that a Negro can get justice at the hands of a white jury, and after all, that Southerners understand race conditions better than those who live elsewhere."

It might have been more effective had the comment been limited to the first clause: "I hope our friends in the North will hear of this verdict as it will show that a Negro can get justice at the hands of a white jury." The rest of it is true but it would give the rabid reformers a new rag to chew on.

And it would be well to remember that there have been cases in which there was a reasonable doubt in the matter of justice but fortunately these cases are not frequent.

The worst situation we have in our courts is that a guilty Negro is assured of swift punishment while there is an inexcusable lack of swift and certain justice to many white criminals.

Look at the record of the death house in Columbia. How many white men have been electrocuted there for the killing of a fellow man? The record

is very black. The black murderer gets punishment without delay while too often the white man gets off by the self-defense plea which in too many cases is so thin that even a child can see through it.

The case in Colleton county needs to be held up as an example of adherence to the motto: "Let justice be done though the heavens fall!"

Neck Broken, Spinal Cord Severed...But They Didn't Hurt Him

White Prohibition Agents Indicted for Murder and Held Under \$5,000 Bond In North Carolina.

SOUTHPORT, N. C., Oct. 13—(Special)—Indictments charging them with the murder on January 8, of Homer Smith, have been returned by the Brunswick county grand jury, against Special Investigators L. M. Howe and John R. McFall, both white, of the Alcoholic Tax Unit of the Federal Revenue Service, and both are slain man's body was fully a mile being held under bonds of \$5,000 distant from that point from which they claimed he fled from his car.

His neck was broken and his spinal cord severed, they claimed he fled from his car and hid in a swamp where they had left him after efforts to locate him had met with no success.

Smith was found on the morning of January 9 at the bottom of an approach fill to the bridge over the Brunswick river, near here. Stating they had detected him transporting liquor on which the Federal tax had not been paid, the officer claimed they had chased him into a swamp after he jumped from an automobile.

Though his cap was recovered

Killings - 1938

South Carolina

CONVICT S. C. WHITES FOR KILLING OF NEGRO

Charleston S. C. News & Courier

January 29, 1938

Justice in Darlington

SPARTANSBURG, S. C.—

(ANP)—Three white men—Andy Babb, Jerry Babb and Bloomer Williams—were convicted of manslaughter Wednesday, January 10, in general sessions court in the slaying last October of James McMillan, Negro farm hand in the Motlow section of Spartanburg county.

In the closing argument for the state, Solicitor S. K. Watt asked for the death penalty for the accused whites, his plea viewed as setting a record for the state in similar cases.

Farmhand McMillan, well known in the section where he lived, was fatally shot while riding on a wagon load of cotton which he and his employe, W. R. Moseley, a farmer, were taking to a gin, according to testimony adduced at the trial.

Jerry Babb, whom the state accused of firing the fatal shot, said McMillan had threatened his life. Marshall Sutton, named in the same indictment, with the three defendants, was granted a severance in the case.

Judge G. B. Green of Anderson, presided at the trial.

Carolina Cattle Farmer, And Cook, 60, Killed

SALUDA, S. C., Jan. 30.—(AP)—Edwin Coleman, 28-year-old Saluda County cattle rancher, and his 60-year-old negro cook were shot and killed today, Sheriff E. Cary Davis said, by a young negro, who worked on a nearby farm.

The sheriff said the negro, Pick Gaines, 20, slipped into the Coleman house while the rancher was feeding the cattle, and emptied both barrels of a shotgun at him when he returned for breakfast.

Gaines shot the aged negro cook when she ran from the house to call help, the sheriff said. Sheriff Davis quoted neighbors as saying Gaines had been acting "crazy" for several weeks.

Gaines was taken to the State penitentiary at Columbia as a precaution against possible violence.

In Darlington the other day, The News and Press says, a white man and a negro were tried for killing a white man. Each "laid it on" the other. The negro was acquitted and the white man convicted—yet Darlington county has more negroes than white people in it. The plain truth is that the courts and juries (white juries) in South Carolina have uniformly protected negroes against palpable injustice. Many a circuit judge has gone out of his way to prevent oppression of negroes.

Killings - 1938

Tennessee

Ex-Convict Slays Woman With Broom

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—SNS—Mrs. Hattie Woods, 65, of 66 Sycamore street, was brutally murdered by Willie Brooks, alias Sleepy, Monday evening.

According to police reports, Mrs. Woods was sitting on her porch conversing with an elderly woman when they accused Brooks of eavesdropping. During the argument, Mrs. Woods called a squad car and Brooks fled.

Later he returned and slipped up behind her while sitting on the porch and beat her over the head with a broom. Mrs. Woods was taken to John Gaston Hospital in a Haye's and Langston ambulance where she died a few minutes later.

Brooks was later arrested on North Front street and when asked the motive for the killing stated that "Mrs. Brook mouthed too much." Brooks is an ex-convict and has served a sentence in Mississippi on a murder charge.

HUNTED NEGRO NAMED IN DARNELL SHOOTING

Description Tallies With That Of Holdup Man

BROTHERS STILL SOUGHT

TriStates Bombed For Two

Men Wanted in Poker Game

Case—Police Press Probe In Other Crimes

A negro described as L. A. Mobley was hunted last night in connection with the shooting of Forrest Darnell, 26-year-old packing company employee, during a holdup a week ago tonight, as investigations of a series of recent holdups in which one was killed and two wounded continued.

Sheriff Guy Joyner said he was holding a negro woman giving her

name as Catherine Anderson, described as Mobley's sweetheart, for questioning. The sheriff said Mobley, who had been arrested in a similar holdup several months ago fits the description given by Mr. Darnell and his woman companion.

Hunt Spreads Out

Meanwhile a wide search continued for two negro brothers, Fred Norfleet, 22, and Percy Norfleet, 17, wanted in connection with the critical wounding of Dr. Eugene Rosamond, 56-year-old baby specialist, in the holdup of a poker game among prominent Memphians at the Saddle and Spur Club Saturday night.

Charles W. Poe, of 446 North Willett, said the younger Norfleet boy caddied for him at Colonial Country Club Sunday afternoon and Robert McCoy, club caddy master, said Percy was on the course most of that day.

Although officers were emphatic in their belief that the Norfleet brothers participated in the Saddle and Spur holdup and that Mobley shot Mr. Darnell, they admitted they had scant knowledge of the identity of the slayer of L. A. Gerard, who was shot to death at his home, 574 South Parkway East, presumably by a negro highwayman.

"We have several leads in the Gerard slaying," Chief Inspector Clegg Richards said. "As yet, we have been unable to unearth anything you might call 'hot.'"

"Several Angles" Open

Inspector Richards said officers were "working on several angles" in the killing, indicating they are not entirely satisfied that robbery was the motive. Mr. Gerard still had a considerable amount of cash in his pocket when witnesses reached him after he was shot. Inspector Richards did not say what the "several angles" were.

Sheriff Joyner said he had two negroes under arrest yesterday who had been suspected in the Saddle and Spur holdup, but that after questioning he believed they knew little or nothing about the case.

The sheriff also said two suspects were arrested in the Tuesday night robbery of Onice Gaines, 20, and Miss Willie Fay Pankey, 22, at Chickasaw and Waring, but that both were released when Miss Pankey could not identify them. The Norfleet negroes were re-

ported to have been seen in Robinsonville, Miss., Tuesday night, Sheriff Joyner said, and reports of their being seen in other localities are being received constantly since they were definitely connected with the case Tuesday.

Trip To Arkansas

Detective Lieut. Wilbur Miller and Detective Martin went to an unannounced town in Arkansas yesterday seeking information, Inspector Richards said. They returned late in the afternoon and reported immediately to the detective chief.

Inspector Richards said he is holding "several" negroes in connection with the poker game holdup. He said he would continue to question them, but did not reveal whether they were held as suspects or were being questioned regarding information which they might have. Officers believe Mobley is still in or near the city, as he was painfully injured when Mr. Darnell attacked him with a pair of pliers during the holdup. Inspector Richards said police had information that Mobley was badly bruised about the jaw and that one eye was nearly closed by the attack.

No picture was immediately available, Sheriff Joyner said, but Mr. Darnell's companion's description of the holdup negro tallies with Mobley. The Darnell case was the only one of the three occurring outside the city limits.

Condition Serious

At Methodist Hospital yesterday, attendants said Dr. Rosamond's condition remains serious. He was shot in the neck, the bullet lodging in the shoulder. Mr. Darnell continues to show slow improvement at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Negroes continued to figure in crime news yesterday. Two women reported negroes attempted to assault them in early morning attacks.

Miss Rebecca Arnold, 22, of Halls, Tenn., was stabbed three times when she resisted a negro's attempt to drag her behind a signboard at Second and Vance about 5 o'clock. Her condition was "not serious," John Gaston Hospital attendants said. She was slashed twice on the arm, once in the side. A suspect was being questioned, police said.

Mrs. Norman Cooper, 39, of 1507 McMillan, frightened a negro in her bedroom at 5:20 o'clock when she screamed as he choked her.

Mrs. Cooper lives near the Gerard home, where Mr. Gerard was slain as he stepped from his automobile. The negro fled when Mrs. Cooper's laughter, Mrs. Hortense Brown, entered the room.

TWO NEGRO FUGITIVES LINKED TO SHOOTING; TRISTATES JOIN HUNT

Nearby Areas On Lookout For Men Who Fled Police After Capture

JOYNER LOOKS FOR BREAK

Davis Remains In Office As Search Spreads

REWARD GROWS LARGER

'Public Spirited Citizen' Adds \$100 To Bounty — Suspects Rounded Up On Streets, Railroad Yards

The two desperate handcuffed negroes who slugged a detective sergeant and escaped early Monday morning after their arrest in East Memphis, have been definitely linked with the Saturday night holdup shooting of Dr. Eugene Rosamond, baby specialist, at the Saddle and Spur Club.

Search for the quick-triggered bandits, who killed one Memphian and wounded Dr. Rosamond and another, spread to the TriStates yesterday as police broadcast an alarm to all officers to be on the lookout for Fred Norfleet, 22, and Percy Norfleet, 17, negroes.

"Under Suspicion" "It is believed these negroes are responsible for the doctor's injuries," the dispatcher declared.

The Norfleets are the negroes who escaped from detectives. They were handcuffed at the time and escaped when they knocked down Detective Sergt. Pilkington.

Sheriff Guy Joyner said last night he expected a break in the cases today. "We have several men working on leads," he said.

Commissioner Davis remained at his office at headquarters last night. He told reporters he looked for developments.

Believe Results Near

His action was taken as an indication that police might be closing in on some of the negroes who, in addition to wounding Dr. Rosamond, killed L. A. Gerard at his home, 574 East Parkway South, Saturday night and critically shot Forrest Darnell, 26-year-old packing company employee, Thursday night in holdups.

Dr. Rosamond's condition was reported to be "about the same" at Methodist Hospital while attendants at St. Joseph's Hospital said Mr. Darnell was improving.

Two suspects, believed to be closely connected with the cases, were arrested yesterday, one in Osceola, Ark., and the other as he attempted to board a northbound freight train in Leawood Yards.

Detective Lieut. Crumby went immediately to Osceola and brought that suspect here, but he was released after questioning by detectives. The other negro, however, was still held last night and Inspector Richards said he expected to question him further.

The rewards for arrest and conviction of negroes participating in the various crimes continued to mount yesterday. The City Commission offered \$250 for the Gerard slayer's apprehension and a "public spirited citizen" offered \$100 additional. The commission also ratified Mayor Overton's action in previously offering a \$250 reward in the Rosamond case. Sheriff Joyner has offered \$150 each for those involved in all three cases.

Hot Tips

Brill Willis, special investigator for the attorney general's office said officers had at least two "hot tips" in the Rosamond case in addition to the Norfleet boys. He also said he had information concerning the Gerard slayer.

"There is so much information coming in and it must all be checked," Inspector Richards said. "We may get a break any time, but it is hard to tell when it might come."

Both county and city officers scoured negro sections last night, seeking information and running down tips received from other sources.

Close surveillance was kept on railroad yards to prevent any escape of possible holdup men and negroes whose actions appeared suspicious were sent in for questioning. At least two such negroes were questioned early in the night by Mr. Willis and remained in jail.

LAUD OFFICIAL WHO DISMISSED MEMPHIS OFFICER FOR KILLING

By JAMES C. DICKERSON
MEMPHIS, Tenn., Sept. 9—
Commissioner Cliff Davis of
the fire and police department
is being commended for his
recent dismissal of Patrolman
David A. Boyd, white.

Three weeks ago Patrolman Boyd
was discharged by Commissioner
Davis for the reported fatal shoot-
ing of Fred Davis, 22.

It is reported that Davis was shot
when the officer went to the rear
of 219 West California in answer
to a call that Davis had begun
hurling bricks after an altercation
with George Vaughn.

The officer commanded Davis to
halt. He is reported as having
cursed the officer and hurled a
brick and knocked his cap off. Pa-
trolman Boyd said "I shot as he
prepared to hurl another brick."

Chief Will D. Lee exonerated the
officer, but later E. H. Crump,
Shelby county political leader,
made a personal investigation and
stated "there had been too much
killing, and unless there is justifi-
cation the policeman should be
fired." Following this Boyd was
fired.

Won't Re-open Case

Since the officer's dismissal, fel-
low Al Chymia Shriners signed
three petitions bearing 125 names
for presentation to Commissioner
Davis, asking that the discharged
patrolman's case be re-opened.

Petitions Offer No 'New' Facts

Notwithstanding this pressure,
Commissioner Davis has to date re-
fused to re-open the case.

NEGRO BANDIT LINKED WITH SHOOTING HERE CAUGHT NEAR MARKS

Suspect In Darnell Assault
Wounded By Sheriff
And Aide

OPENS FIRE AT OFFICERS

Police Claim Seizure Of Loot
Belonging To Memphian

VICTIM REFUSES TO TALK

Hunt For Other Negroes

Sought In Rosamond And

Gerard Outrages Continue

Unbated — Deputies At

Wiring

The relentless 10-day police hunt
for negro bandits who shot three
victims in three Memphis holdups
brought initial results yesterday
morning when Mississippi deputies
wounded and captured C. Mob-
ley, 27, in a gun battle near Marks,
Miss.

Mobley was wanted for the hold-
up-shooting of Forrest Darnell, 26-
year-old Memphis Packing Co. em-
ployee, who had sufficiently recov-
ered from his three wounds to be
taken from St. Joseph's Hospital to
his home on Levi yesterday.

Negro Opens Fire

Mobley was shot in the right eye
and legs by Sheriff E. G. Barringer
and Deputy Sheriff T. M. Stanford,
of Quitman County, after he open-
ed fire with a pistol as he ran out
of a house two miles north of
Marks.

Brought to John Gaston Hospital
here at 2:45 o'clock, Mobley was in
a critical condition. Physicians
said an eye was shot out, his legs
broken and that he probably had a
fractured skull caused by buckshot
fire from sawed-off shotguns.

Taken from him was the pistol
which the Mississippi officers said
he fired once, a watch and two
rings deputies said were taken from
Mr. Darnell's young woman com-
panion in the holdup, which oc-
curred on Lakeview near Raines
the night of Sept. 1.

Refuses to Talk

Sheriff Guy Joyner said the "un-
tiring efforts" of four of his depu-
ties, George Becker, Raymond
Land, Bruce Johnson and George
Grantham, were largely responsible
for Mobley's capture. The officers
notified Sheriff Barringer after
they received information Mobley
was in the vicinity of Marks.

Since his capture, Mobley has re-
fused to talk to officers, although
he is conscious. He is being held
in the prison ward at the hospital.

Mobley's capture did not lessen
the intensity of the police drive for
negroes wanted in the wounding of
Dr. Eugene Rosamond, baby spe-
cialist, in a holdup at the Saddle
and Spur Club, and in the slaying
of L. A. Gerard in a holdup at his
home, 574 South Parkway East.

Gerard Suspect Held

A suspect in the Gerard killing
was being held in city jail, and the
search for Fred and Percy Nor-
fleet, wanted in the Rosamond
shooting, continued throughout the

MidSouth. The hunt for them had
centered in the Cordova-Collierville
area the last several days.

Sheriff Barringer said he and
Deputy Stanford attempted to stop
Mobley when he ran from the
house, but that he crouched down
and fired once. Both officers then
shot, felling him.

The negro had arrived at the
house, where Sheriff Barringer said
he was an "unwelcome guest," late
Saturday, after walking and hitch-
hiking from Memphis. He was suf-
fering from an eye wound, re-
ceived when slugged with a pair of
pliers by Mr. Darnell.

Sullen and Silent

A huge, light-skinned negro
Mobley was sullen and quiet when
he arrived at the hospital, accom-
panied by Sheriff Barringer and
Deputies Becker and Land, who
had gone to Marks when Sheriff
Barringer notified Sheriff Joyner
of the capture.

Mr. Darnell, who was shot in the
neck, left shoulder and right thigh,
told officers he and Miss Eloise
Brown, 20, who lives on Graves,
were driving slowly on Lakeview,
when a negro leaped on the run-
ning board and made him stop at
pistol point.

The negro cursed Mr. Darnell for
small amount of change he carried
and snatched the watch, diamond
ring, a birthstone ring and a purse
from Miss Brown. Mr. Darnell
then beat off an attempted assault,
he said.

Physicians at Methodist Hospital
said Mr. Rosamond showed im-
provement yesterday but his condi-
tion remained critical. He was shot
in the neck and is partially par-
alyzed as a result.

Killings - 1938.

Tennessee

Memphis, Tenn., Scimitar
August 16, 1938

NEGROES DROP BROOKS PROBE

Club Decides to Accept Police
Verdict of Shooting Of
Mail Carrier

Plans to ask city officials to re-open the case of George W. Brooks, negro postman, killed Jan. 3 by Detective Sergeant A. O. Clark, were dropped last night when officers of Bluff City Civic Association met at the home of Tom Watkins, 89 W. De Soto Street.

A resolution asking the case be reopened was to have been presented to a mass meeting of negroes at Salem Baptist Church on Thursday night by Watkins.

Closed Incident

"The officers decided we would simply send a letter to city officials commending them for their action in the case of Fred Davis, negro, slain Saturday, Aug. 6," Watkins said today, "and would make no mention of the Brooks case."

"The police found sufficient evidence to close the Brooks case and we have not been able to find other evidence to warrant asking that it be reopened," Watkins said.

Watkins stated nothing would be brought up about the Brooks case at the meeting Thursday night altho he said the meeting would be held.

Officials Commended

Watkins declared he and other officers of the Bluff City Civic Association would sign the letter of commendation addressed to city officials for their action in the Davis case. Other officers of the club are Earl Wade, president; William DeBerry, secretary; J. A. Beachamp, chairman, board of directors; S. J. Parks, publicity chairman, and Earl Moody, treasurer.

COUNTY FORCES JOIN
NEGRO GUNMEN HUNT;
REWARD IS INCREASED

Shelby Officers Add \$150 To

Price On Head Of Each
In Shootings

DR. ROSAMOND IMPROVES
General Condition Reported
To Be Better

TWO SUSPECTS ESCAPE

Prisoners Flee Captors After
Arrest For Questioning—Police
Ordered To Use All Resources To Break Case

Shelby County deputies joined Memphis police yesterday in their search for negro gunmen who have killed one man and wounded two others since Thursday. Sheriff Guy Joyner posted a \$150 reward for the arrest of each of the gunmen participating in the three shootings.

While police and deputies laid their net, victims of two shootings, Dr. Eugene Rosamond, 56-year-old baby specialist, and Forrest Darnell, 26-year-old employe of the Memphis Packing Company, continued to show improvement.

Bullet Remains

Dr. Rosamond's general condition was much better, but his legs remained paralyzed. No plans have been made to remove the 38-caliber bullet which is lodged just under the skin of his right shoulder.

Sheriff Joyner, in announcing the reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the negroes, brought the price on the heads of the negroes in the Saddle and Spur shooting to \$700.

Mayor Overton announced Sunday that the city will pay \$250 for the capture of those involved in the shooting of Dr. Rosamond. He announced no reward for the apprehension of the gunmen who killed L. A. Gerard and critically wounded Mr. Darnell.

"We are co-operating with the city in every way to apprehend the bandits," said Sheriff Joyner. "Several squad cars of deputies are working on the cases in the county."

One Suspect Held

Inspector Clegg Richards said last night that the Police Department is using all of its resources in an effort to "break the case."

"We have arrested six suspects and have released all but one," said Inspector Richards. "We are handicapped by scanty descriptions of the bandits, but we are checking every lead we receive."

Two suspects in the shooting of Dr. Rosamond and the robbery of eight other Memphians at the Saddle and Spur Club Saturday night escaped from four detectives about 3:30 o'clock yesterday morning in East Memphis.

Hold Officers Blameless

Detective Sergrts. Billings, Clark, Pilkington and Jones had arrested and handcuffed four negroes in an eastern section of the city when they suddenly broke and ran after striking one of the officers. Reports that the negroes had struck the officers with the handcuffs were denied.

Inspector Richards regarded the incident as one that might have happened to any officer. No shots were fired. Recent police orders have been that officers were not to fire on a suspect unless the officer has been fired upon.

Capt. W. Frank Glisson, head of the Homicide Bureau, said there had been no developments in the case yesterday.

THREATS BRING OUT TROOPS; WHITE JURY FINDS YOUTH GUILTY

UNION CITY, Tenn., Sept. 29 (Special)—Convicted of the slaying of W. B. Lunsford, white taxicab driver, 23-year-old J. D. Stevenson was sentenced here Wednesday to imprisonment for life. The jury's verdict, returned in less than

three quarters of an hour, recommended the life imprisonment sentence which was imposed by the court a few minutes later.

Testifying in his own behalf during his trial, Stevenson said the fatal shooting was accidental, and that Lunsford was shot with his own pistol during a scuffle in which they engaged.

Repeated threats that unless the accused received the death sentence he would be lynched brought the stationing of National Guard troops in and about the courthouse during the trial, but there was no demonstration or disorder of any kind attempted.

HUSBAND'S UNEXPECTED RETURN FATAL TO WIFE

By JASPER T. DUNCAN

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Oct. 27—Edward Paramore, 26-year-old Read House porter, placed his mother-in-law, Mrs. Laura Shropshire, on the evening train for New York City to visit with one of her daughters. But he didn't go to work, he returned home instead.

As a result, his wife, Elzora Shropshire, 24, is dead, and grief-stricken Paramore is charged with her murder by the police department.

According to Homicide Detective E. E. Smith, when Paramore returned to his residence at 2110 E. Twelfth street, and finally gained admittance, he heard the back door slam, and rushed through the house in time to find Louis Jackson, 2400 Dodds avenue.

He caught Jackson, Smith says, and returned him to the house and with his open knife threatened to kill the transgressor of his home. Jackson was begging for his life when Mrs. Paramore rushed up to make an effort to stop the tragic scene. Paramore shoved her back with the hand in which he held the knife and it pierced her breast.

It was not until after the argument was over between the two men, officers say, that the prostrate body of Mrs. Paramore was discovered. She was rushed to Baroness Erlanger hospital, and pronounced dead.

The husband was arrested by officers Ridge, Edmondson, Caldwell and Hyatt, and fainted upon being informed of the death of his wife.

Her death, according to Officer Smith brings the total of Negroes slain by Negroes during 1938 to 32. Other statistics submitted by him showed that whites slain by whites are 3, colored by white 1.

Killings - 1938

Tennessee

Birmingham Ala. Post

October 27, 1938

STREET ARGUMENT LEADS TO KILLING

By United Press.

CHATTANOOGA, Oct. 26.—Chattanooga police reported today that Thomas Burts, a Negro employe of the Tennessee Valley Authority, had confessed to the slaying of Houston Young, 38, former Works Progress Administration worker.

The shooting occurred last night. Young's wife told officers her husband was shot when he went to a bedroom window to investigate a noise.

Sharecropper Gets 10 Years For Murder Of Plantation Overseer

HUNTINGDON, Tenn.—His conviction in the murder of George Stanford, white overseer on the R. C. Denny plantation near here July 26, 1937, reversed by the Tennessee Supreme Court last April, Bill Jack Bledsoe, a sharecropper, had his sentence cut from twenty to ten years in prison following a new trial here last June.

The case against Curtis Bledsoe, a relative, was dismissed. Bill Bledsoe's contention at his first trial was that he fired at the "riding boss" in self-defense during an argument with the latter over the payment of grass seed.

According to Bledsoe the white man had promised to pay him for grass seed planted on the plantation, but fired him without keeping his word. Bledsoe was defended by white and colored lawyers, assisted by the Memphis, Tenn., branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Killings - 1938

CITE SLAYING OF POSTMAN AS UNJUSTIFIABLE

2,000 Gather In Gigantic Mass Meet; Mayor To Be Interviewed

MEMPHIS, Jan. 21—(Special)—Some two thousand Race citizens of Memphis thronged the Centenary M. E. church here January 14 in a gigantic mass meeting called to protest the brutal slaying of George Brooks, 28-year-old letter-carrier, by Detective Clark on Monday night Jan. 3.

A committee of three was selected by the group to appeal directly to Mayor Watkins Overton, and to urge the city executive to order an investigation in the shooting, which in the minds of Memphis citizens was entirely unwarranted.

During the mass meeting it was decided that an additional committee of nine be named as an interracial committee to confer with a similar committee of white citizens on such cases as the above.

Meeting an Orderly One
The large crowd, exceptionally enthusiastic, was nevertheless orderly. One hour and thirty minutes long, the meeting conveyed the deep sincerity of the masses.

The committee of three consists of Dr. J. O. Fuller, pastor of First Baptist church, chairman; the Rev. H. B. Gibson, pastor of Centenary M. E. church, and M. S. Stuart, vice president of the Universal Life Insurance company.

The following were named on a committee of 25 to institute the progress of members of the Race in Memphis: M. S. Stuart, Mrs. Hattie Burchett, Mrs. Fannie Neeland, the Rev. Howard Perry, the Rev. William Coke, A. A. Latting, Bishop Thomas, E. Danby, Edward Lewis, the Rev. J. B. Boyd, Tom Young, Dr. J. E. Walker, Dr. N. W. Watson, Mrs. Mary D. King, Mrs. Hasalee Green, Eddie D. Davis, the Rev. H. B. Gibson, the Rev. W. E. Mack, the Rev. J. A. Anderson, Dr. J. O. Fuller, J. A. Beauchamp, Taylor Hayes, the Rev. J. A. G. Grant, Mrs. Rosa Stewart and W. M. Davis.

Group Prepares Statement
The statement presented by the sponsoring committee and endorsed

by the group, was as follows:

REASONS FOR MEETING
That a spirit of unrest and protest among the colored people of this city, growing out of several homicides of Negroes at the hands of police officers here during the past few years, and made keenly acute by a recent sad tragedy in which a young colored man met death, and a resultant feeling of fear and insecurity are threatening to disturb the peaceful relations between the races here is attested to by the signatories to this call, representative as they are of the most conservative characters and cool heads of the city, and by the tone of comment of the public press, and by the persistent rumors, protests and agitation of various clubs of this community.

To attempt to guide this protesting interest to the accomplishment of useful, sensible and feasible appearing purposes by which future such occurrences may be avoided, and to promote a feeling of greater satisfaction, this meeting is called.

In its beginnings its sponsors believe it to be the part of wisdom to here make some preliminary observation in clarification and emphasis of our attitudes towards general conditions that affect the amicable relations of the two major races which the above mentioned unfortunate circumstances have, we believe, threatened to mar. We believe further that if any useful purpose is to be served here tonight we should in the beginning state those objectives which we think ought to be accomplished, which we believe accomplishable, and in a not-too rigid way attempt to chart the course along which deliberations should move to these ends.

FIRST, we declare that we have not lost hope in the disposition of our city government to take the necessary steps, consistent with right and fairness to all, to correct any details of operation in our police department which may tend to provoke these unfortunate—and we believe avoidable—results of arrests of those accused of offenses.

SECOND. We believe in law and order, and we deeply deplore the commissions of acts of criminality and violations of the law of all kinds by whomsoever committed; and do hereby declare our willingness and court the opportunities to be of cooperative services to the peace officers of our city and county to make our criminal record the best of any in the country; and to this end we now call upon you and through you all of our people to be cautious, sober, and law abiding, and to avoid all places of vice and of evil repute and all contacts potential of misunderstanding and trouble whether with white or colored people. In the presence of a known possibility that any and every arrest may be fraught with death, let all of us exercise extreme care to avoid even the appearance of evil and thus make any contact with law enforcing officers as greatly unnecessary as possible.

THIRD. Social Contacts. We believe in the strict observances of the written and adopted laws of the State of Tennessee, and think every citizen should lend the weight of his or her influence in upholding all of the laws as long as they remain un repealed, no matter what may be our opinions as to the wisdom or righteousness of any such laws. Therefore, since our laws do forbid the legitimate union of opposing sexes of the white and colored races, let us here tonight resolve that we will from now on discourage, and

denounce any and all attempts at clandestine and illegitimate social relations among colored males and white females and among white males and colored females, and hereby invite the active cooperation of all elements of the people of both races to suppress both angles of this immorality.

FOURTH. We believe that ranking first among our objectives should be the promotion of the necessary steps to make secure the lives of those who may be accused of crime unless and until they shall have been forfeited by due processes of law. Ranking next, we believe, should be steps to encourage and maintain the most cordial of relations of all members of the two major races that have to live here together, and to the end that this may be done we implore our people not to make of each recurring tragedy an aggravating, peace-disturbing racial question. To further make real and sincere good racial relations in our city, we advise that there be here appointed a small committee of level-headed men of the race and that we invite our city government to effect the appointment of a like number of white men of known christianity and broadness of spirit, the combined group to serve as an Inter-racial Commission to first consider and then advise upon all arising matters that may mar race relations.

Next, we believe it to be our duty to take steps to point out to our city officials the obstructing difficulties of colored people to get before our higher authorities the evidence to make out our cases in relation to any circumstances or occurrences in which we may believe members of the race have suffered abuses at the hands of hasty or hot tempered policemen. By the very nature of things the circumstances and evidence in such cases are usually not available to us; but are in the control of those who are involved. It, therefore, reduces itself to a matter of relying absolutely upon the words of the principal characters who might naturally not wish to make out a case of blame against themselves.

In these circumstances, then, we make known our belief that our sole reliance for protection is the vigorous interest and attention of our higher city officials; and hence, hereby request of them that no undue haste be permitted in the exoneration of police officers involved in the wounding or killing of Negroes until both sides of the interested parties can be heard.

Furthermore, we do hereby appeal to them to make some arrangements whereby only those officers who have established records for patience, tolerance and of freedom from violence be used in the arresting of Negroes, if such an arrangement be wholly possible; and, if not, to the extent that it is possible. The knowledge, we believe, of such an arrangement would inspire confidence in the law and a wholesome respect for its enforcing agents and tend to reduce to a minimum bloodshed in arrests.

Next, we ask that a full, fair and impartial investigation of all of the circumstances surrounding the killing of the late George W. Brooks be made.

Finally, that the objectives which we here approve may be made effective, we recommend that a Committee of Three be by the chairman appointed to make known our wishes to our city officials and appeal to them for some arrangement to cut short the lengthening list of casualties resulting from the arrests of colored people in our city.

Again deploring the occurrences of

such tragedies as have provoked the necessity for this meeting as well as the conduct of all of those whose actions contribute to misunderstandings and race clashes, and recording our confidence in his honor Mayor Watkins Overton, and soliciting the prayers and influence of all good citizens, and invoking the blessings of Almighty God to the end that right and justice, peace and harmony and brotherhood shall always prevail in Memphis, Tenn., we your committee on Policy and Objectives appointed by the sponsors of this meeting submit this our report for your consideration. M. S. Stuart, chairman; Rev. H. B. Gibson, secretary; Rev. J. A. G. Grant, Rev. S. A. Owen, Rev. T. O. Fuller, ex-officio; L. O. Swingler.

BOSS BRIBED NEGROES TO SHOOT ATTENDANT INSURED AT \$12,000

Gas Station Operator Breaks
After Grill Lasting
26 Hours

**COMMITTEES
ACCOMPLICES ARE JAILED**

**ALL THREE CONFESS GUILT IN
DEATH PLOT**

2-20-38

'TRIGGER MAN' BALKED

**'THEY WOULD HAVE KILLED ME
IF I HADN'T DONE IT,' HE
TELLS POLICE — SCHEME IN
MAKING FOR MONTHS**

Less than 48 hours after Oliver James George, 22-year-old filling station attendant, was fatally shot through the back of his head, police bared a sinister death plot aimed at collecting \$12,000 insurance his employer had placed on the victim. Last night they had the signed confessions of a white man and two negroes who admitted a cold blooded scheme of murder and fraud.

In the county jail and at police headquarters were James O. Martin, 42, of 2263 Young, operator of the service station at 373 South Front, where young George was slain; Joe McKay, negro, 38, of 1369 Breedlove, who said he acted as the death broker between Martin and the murderer; and James Willis (Will) Smith, negro, 38, of 974 Riverview, designated by police as

'trigger man' in the crime.

Confess Their Guilt

The three admitted their guilt before Squire Tom Phillips to warrants charging first degree murder.

Faced with the evidence that the bullet taken from the victim's brain had been fired from the murder pistol, Smith late yesterday afternoon sat in the office of Capt. Frank Glisson and haltingly recited the details of the slaying.

"I refused as long as I could," Smith said. "They would have killed me if I hadn't done it."

Through Smith's long story stood out the contention that he did not even know the name of the youth he shot to death. He expressed no regret for the killing.

Describes Shooting

At the end he told of the shooting itself, which he said took place Thursday night just after the filling station lights went out at closing time.

"They (George and Martin) both came out of the door, and I walked past them," Smith said. "The white man (Martin) said, 'Now's the time,' and I stepped over to the young man and shot him twice. Then I ran."

Police investigation disclosed that Martin had taken out four life insurance policies on young George, one of which had been assigned to his employer. Total benefits of the policies amounted to \$12,000, and some of them provided for double indemnity in case of accidental death.

Inspector Clegg Richards, who directed the police investigation, said that first intimation of the insurance angle in the death came as a tip from an anonymous person Friday. A phone call informed the inspector Martin had been inquiring about additional insurance on George, before the slaying Thursday night.

Grilled 26 Hours

Captain W. Frank Glisson telephoned Martin to come to headquarters, and the filling station operator complied. Soon after his arrival began the questioning that lasted 26 hours and ended with his confession. **2-20-38**

"I first conceived the idea of killing George for the insurance several months ago," police quoted Martin as saying.

Among the officers who grilled him were Sergeants Clark, Fox, Johnson and Stallings, Detective Don Owens, Capt. Glisson and Lieut. Lee Quianthy Sr.

Martin has been in Memphis for 15 years. He had the reputation, among his associates of being a quiet, efficient station operator. An official of the oil company whose products he handled told police yesterday he had always seemed reliable, and never gave the impression of being pushed for money.

Bank Balance of \$1000

Police said he has a bank balance of more than \$1000. He is married, has no children.

Looking sleepily dazed from the long session with his questioners, the gray-haired, medium-built Martin told in his statement how Joe McKay came to the filling station to plan details of the murder.

"I took out considerable insurance on George in 1935," Martin said, according to the police statement. "Two or three months ago I asked McKay to kill or have George killed. I told him we would split a \$2500 insurance policy on him."

Thursday morning he and McKay completed their arrangements at the filling station. That night they closed as usual, he said.

"I was checking the locks on the pumps. George turned to go toward front. I heard two pistol shots, then looked around and saw George fall over near the middle pump. The negro was three or four feet from him."

Sounded Holdup Alarm

Then he told how he had run to a nearby garage and given the alarm that his station was being held up.

"Joe never did tell me who the negro was who did the killing," he added.

Joe McKay, who played the role of go-between, told police that last Christmas Martin first asked him if he wanted to make some money by killing a man.

His statement was made after his arrest at his home yesterday morning by Detective Sergeants McGee and Getz, Detective Owens and Lieut. Miller.

McKay said he refused the proposition at first, but that when Martin later offered him half of a \$2500 insurance policy, he got in touch with Will Smith and offered to split the blood money.

Smith Finally Agreed

McKay's version was that Smith finally agreed after several refusals, and that Smith and the white man worked out the details together. He said his part in the crime was to drive Smith in a car to near the scene of the murder, wait for him, and pick him up after the shooting.

How the youthful victim gained another day of life because of his assassin's indecision appeared in Smith's statement to Captain Glisson.

Smith said they first planned to make George's death seem accidental by taking a disabled truck to the service station and slugging him on the head while he worked on it, then dropping the truck from a jack to his unconscious body. He said that dangers of the plan caused it to be abandoned in favor of more direct action.

After further protests against the scheme, he said, he went to the neighborhood of the scene with McKay Thursday night.

"I got out of the car and walked to the filling station," he said. Just before I got there, the lights went

out. I walked on past the place, and the young fellow (George) crossed right in front of me. I had the pistol then, but I didn't shoot."

Three More Days

When he got back to his waiting accomplice, McKay asked him if he had lost his nerve, and the next morning came to him with threats of what would happen to him if he failed again.

"He told me the white man had just three more days, because the young fellow had signed up to join the Army. He said the white man just couldn't bear to waste all the money he had paid on the insurance."

The pistol was recovered by Lieutenant Miller and Sergeant McGee and Getz yesterday at the home of Kermit Smith, negro, 1128 White, a cousin of Will Smith.

Will Smith said he borrowed the weapon from Kermit Monday and returned it to him Thursday night shortly after the murder.

Sam Campbell, assistant attorney general, who spent most of yesterday working on the case, expressed belief recovery of the weapon and the fatal bullet will be a strong point in obtaining conviction.

Two Shells Gone

The pistol is a 7.65 mm Lueger, a little smaller than .38 caliber. Kermit Smith said that when it was borrowed it had four shells. Yesterday there were two in it.

Lieut. William Raney, ballistics expert, "fingerprinted" the pistol immediately after its recovery. He said identifying marks on a test bullet prove conclusively that the same weapon fired the test bullet and the bullet which killed George.

Department officials said that a scientific ballistic apparatus recently installed at the headquarters laboratory was being used for the first time in solution of a Memphis crime.

Memphis, Tenn., Confidential Appeal, June 12, 1938

'GARDEN PLOT' TRIAL SET FOR WEDNESDAY

WPA Worker Is Charged With First Degree Murder

ASSAULT CASE ON DOCKET

Salesman Arrested On Complaint Of 17-Year-Old Girl—Negro Faces Court June 20 On 'Insurance' Slaying Count

J. D. White, 54, WPA worker, will be tried for first degree murder Wednesday before Judge Phil H. Wallace for the slaying of A. C.

Hood, 47, of 745 Court, his apartment neighbor, in a quarrel over a garden plot in the rear of their dwelling. Before he died, Hood told officers, they say, that White shot him without provocation or warning.

Faces Assault Charge

Joseph Holloway, 25, salesman, 84 Clark Place, will be tried tomorrow before Judge Tom W. Harsh on charges of criminal assault. He was arrested a month ago on complaint of a 17-year-old girl who claimed he attacked her in Overton Park.

S. V. Johnson, 39, negro, is scheduled for trial June 20 before Judge Wallace for the "insurance murder" of his wife, whom he allegedly slugged and then sprinkled with gasoline to make her death appear an accidental burning.

On the same day before Judge Harsh, Leo Driscoll Jr., 25, of Knoxville, will be tried for robbery and carrying a pistol on complaint of E. R. Holmes, filling station operator, Union and Avalon.

The Complete Calendar

The complete calendar follows:

DIVISION ONE

Monday, June 13—Julius Merriwether, Lonnie Davis, alias Camack.
Tuesday—Chester Overby, alias Ear Oglesby, Willie Jones, Willie Jones, Robert Williams and Malcolm Futhey.
Wednesday—J. D. White, Otis Thomas, Lynwood Smith, Eddie Cotton and Sam Levitch.
Thursday—Roosevelt Ross, Obrie Patterson, D. M. Freeman, motion; Lee Hoskins.
Friday—Barry Ellis, C. A. Madison, C. C. Owens and C. A. Madison.
Monday, June 20—S. V. Johnson, John Elkins, John Elkins.
Tuesday—Clarence Burton, M. H. Perce Jr.
Wednesday—James Donald Oakley, Homer Sexton.
Thursday—George Money.
Friday—C. T. Rodgers, Joe Hampton, M. F. Maxey.

DIVISION TWO

Monday, June 13—Joseph Rudolph Holloway, Mack Evans alias Van Evans.
Tuesday—Dorsey Lewis, William Moore, James D. Sneed, Albert Ray and Allen Taylor, James D. Sneed and Albert Ray.
Wednesday—A. B. Oliver and Wesson Donaldson, Robert Duckworth.
Thursday—James Smith and Robert Smith, Frank Sykes and George Warf, Frank Sykes, Willie Walker, Myron Courson, motion.
Friday—C. Skelton, P. L. Morton.
Monday, June 20—Leo Driscoll Jr., Lonzie Lee Brown.
Tuesday—James Brown, Robert McKinley and Joseph McElrath.
Wednesday—Bonnie Miles.
Thursday—Ira Lee Barker, Lawrence Hassell.
Friday—Joe Pacini, J. D. Wright, Tom Jackson.

DEBT, 40C, LEADS TO MURDER

White Grocer Fires

Into Dwelling And Slays Man's Wife

PEOPLE AROUSED

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—

Burney A. Jones, 56-year-old white grocer whose grocery store at 183 Holland was largely dependent upon Negro patronage, shot and killed Mrs. Camilla Brown, 39, a customer, over a 40-cent debt during an argument with her husband, Rev. Charley Brown, Friday morning at 6:30, according to testimony of the widower.

One of the four bullets which took effect, tore through the woman's heart. Bullet wounds in the left hand, the neck, and leg were also effected when Jones standing outside of the gate of the Browns' residence, fired six times into the house.

Rev. Brown, in a statement to the Memphis World, said that the grocer was shooting at him but fatally wounded his wife instead.

Five holes in the screen door, and a sixth bullet mark in the back frame of the door, were testimony of the tragedy that occurred in the early hour of this quiet neighborhood. Blood stains could be seen on the curtain and on the couch in the front room where Mrs. Brown died in a pool of blood.

Following the shooting, the grocer ran to Casten Street and turned South. Rev. Brown followed his wife's slayer for a few yards on Casten with his shotgun but the man had disappeared before he got within shooting range, he stated.

Jones was later arrested by police officers. He claimed self-defense, stating that he shot at Brown when the man threatened him with the shotgun.

In his statement, Rev. Brown declared:

"Jones came to my home around 6:30 and called me to the gate. I was standing just inside of the yard, leaning against the gate, which was locked at the time Jones had something wrapped in a paper sack. He kept the sack in his hand and as he hung his walking cane on the gate, he asked me 'When are you going to pay my 40 cents, old man?'"

"I told him that I'll pay him no later than next week—perhaps to day. It was a small bill my wife made at the store."

"Jones, in profane language said, 'I'm going to kill you today, and snatched his gun from the sack.'"

"You have me," I said, and started walking toward the door of my house, thinking that any second would be the last. He fired at least five shots before I could reach the porch where I stumbled.

"My wife ran to the door from the back room, and asked, 'Darling, are you shot?'"

"She then grasped her breast and cried 'Lord, he shot me too.'"

Rev. Brown said he picked his wife up and laid her on the couch which was near the front door. He asked his wife where his gun was. She was too weak to talk, he added, but pointed behind the couch. "I picked up the gun and started after Jones, followed him for nearly a block," Rev. Brown said. "When I got back to my house, my wife was dead."

The minister, who is employed on a WPA project, said that he doesn't know how the grocer missed hitting him. "Every one of those bullets whizzed over me, and I drew up at each shot, thinking that the last would be any second," he asserted.

Rev. Brown denied Jones' report at police headquarters that he owed his wife's slayer a \$1.80 bill. "I had stopped trading at the store for sometime," he stated. He added that his wife would go by the store and make small purchases. The whole bill didn't amount to 50 cents, Brown said.

The slain woman, besides her husband, leaves two sisters, Mrs. Irene Maddin and Mrs. Annie Alexander. She was the aunt of Emmitt and Lizzie Robinson. Olive Cannon, Mai Walker, J. H. Snow Funeral Home had charge of the remains.

Killings - 1938

Virginia
6

Youth Shot In Back As He Fled From "Cop" In Close Pursuit

Bullet Passes Through Body From The Back; Helpless Victim Dies Shortly After Admission To Hospital

REPORTER VISITS STORE

A 17-year-old colored youth fell mortally wounded in a vacant lot on East Baker street, a woman and a man, innocent bystanders, were injured by flying glass when a party of "Richmonds Finest" went on a hunting spree in the Jackson Ward section of this city of 200,000 people Tuesday night of this week.

James Lee, 17, 700 black N. First street, was fatally shot by police officer L. H. Wilson when he is alleged to have ignored the officer's cries of halt. Officer Wilson is reported to have told his superiors that the boy ran from a car which had been reported stolen shortly before. He is reported to have said that he called to the fleeing youth to halt, but that the boy continued on his course. The officer brought his service pistol into play and is reported to have fired three shots at the fleeing boy. According to the officer, he fired two of the shots into the air and the other in the direction of the youth. Just how many shots were fired is not known, but the Planet's investigation shows that one of the bullets struck the fleeing youth in the back, entering the left side, perforating his intestines and coming out on the other side. Another bullet shattered a plate glass window in a store on the corner of Third and Baker streets. This bullet hole was a little more than neck high on the average sized man, according to those who saw the bullet hole in the window. The bullet which shattered the window entered one pane of the large plate glass took a circular course and came out through the other pane at right angles to it.

MERCHANT'S WIFE INJURED

The wife of the merchant who operates the corner store was injured by flying glass as was a customer who was in the store at the time. The customer, Joe Mason, miraculously escaped instant death, for had the bullet kept on its course instead of doing an almost about-face, he would have been struck near the heart by the wild bullet.

When Planet reporters visited the store on Wednesday the plate glass was being replaced by a local glazier. The proprietor explained that had the bullet entering the windows continued on its course another fatality would have almost surely been the result.

The wounded youth was picked from the lot and rushed to S hospital for treatment but shortly after being admitted.

MAY DEMAND GRAND JURY INVESTIGATION

It was also learned in the rigid investigation of the now being conducted by the Planet that a grand jury investigation may be asked of Commonwealth's Attorney. As Commonwealth's Attorney C. T. ley told the Planet on Wednesday he was informed by the department that the "officer" be arrested and tried like a "fish-knife" and cut the left side of his face, his upper lip and the right side of his head. Little was also cut on the lip. Both were lodged in a cell and charged with felonious assault.

JORDAN JUSTIFIES SHOOTING

Chief of police R. B. Jordan stated on Wednesday that from the facts in his possession, the killing of the boy was in his opinion justified. Colonel John A. Cutchins, Director of Public Safety, could not be reached for comment, his office reporting that he was out of the city. A conference of representative citizens and the heads of social agencies will be held this week with the end in view of making an independent searching investigation of the affair.

Coroner Scherer told the Planet that the bullet "entered the boy's back on the left side, perforated his intestines and came out on the right side." He died from internal hemorrhages.

Lynchburg Has First Homicide Of Year

LYNCHBURG, Va. — Just at the time when citizens were patting themselves on the back because the homicide rate of last year among Negroes at the beginning of 1937 seemed likely not to occur early in this year, a fight which occurred at a dance at T. D. Patrick's tea room on Amherst Turnpike cost one Negro his life and resulted in serious cut wounds across the side of Geo. Callahan, who is in Lynchburg hospital.

Street fights, too, which were comparatively few for this year, are now on the increase. At least four were wounded in fights in and around Lynchburg last weekend.

Clarence Taylor of 215 Page St., who was taken into custody by officers after a fight on Fifth St., told police that he was cut by Thomas Little of 911 Polk St. when he tried to get the latter to stop fighting another man.

Little, it was reported, turned on Taylor with a "fish-knife" and cut the left side of his face, his upper lip and the right side of his head. Little was also cut on the lip. Both were lodged in a cell and charged with felonious assault.

In another street fight Alfred Douglas, 18, of 1302 Wise Street, had his back and face slashed on Wise Street Sunday. He said a woman knifed him. No reason was given for the fight.

Terry Indictment Quashed Judge Rules Grand Jury Invalid

Exclusion of Race Veniremen Cited By Defense

Portsmouth Bureau

Henry Terry, 36-year-old suspect in the Sivills-Ward murder-attack case, was given a new lease on life Tuesday morning when Judge James U. Goode of Norfolk's Corporation Court No. 2 ordered quashed a murder indictment against him on the grounds that it was improperly drawn.

In quashing the jury venire and indictment, Judge Goode, presiding for Judge C. W. Coleman, sustained a motion made by Robert F. McMurren, chief defense counsel, immediately after court convened at ten o'clock. Mr. McMurren contended that the grand jury had been improperly summoned, that it was composed of an illegal number of members, and that it contained the names of no Norfolk County colored citizens.

Terry is still in custody on another charge of rape, and two charges of robbery by force of arms, and these charges will be heard by another grand jury in the near future, according to Commonwealth's Attorney A. O. Lynch, who opposed the motion to quash

the indictment at Tuesday's hearing.

"It was obvious from the evidence presented by the Terry defense that the grand jury was improperly drawn," Mr. Lynch said after the hearing. "Of course another grand jury list will have to be drawn in compliance with the law, and when this is done, all of the charges against Terry will be presented to the body. It is to be presumed that the defense would contend that since one indictment was faulty because of an improperly drawn grand jury, the others must be also."

Sheriff A. A. Wendell, of Norfolk County and Deputy Clerk L. C. Ansell were the only two witnesses called at Tuesday's hearing. Both were placed on the stand after Mr. McMurren read from the Virginia Statutes showing that a grand jury must be called once every year during June, July and August, and must be composed of not less than five, nor more than seven names.

Both Sheriff Wendell and Deputy Clerk Ansell gave testimony indicating that the grand jury by which Terry was indicted, consisted of eight men. Mr. Ansell testified that the jurors were chosen from a list which was made up in 1933, five years ago. Mr. Ansell was recalled to the stand later and gave substantially the same testimony.

ONLY ONE COLORED MAN

He contended however that the grand jury list had been recopied in 1936 and sought to show that this procedure virtually constituted a new list. He told the court that the venire contained the required 48 names, but added on questioning that it contained the name of only one colored citizen to his knowledge.

The deputy clerk testified further that several of the men on the original list had since died or had moved from the jurisdiction of the court. He testified further that

he knew personally fully 90 per cent of the men on the grand jury list but did not say whether or not the colored man on the list was dead, or had moved from the jurisdiction of the court.

CLOSED HEARING

The hearing was closed to all but lawyers, officers, witnesses and newspapermen.

Wearing a pair of new khaki trousers much too large for him, a new blue denim shirt, and badly in need of a shave and hair cut, Terry sat in a nearby corner, the cynosure of all eyes in the court room. He apparently paid no attention, or failed to grasp what was going on.

Mrs. Daisy Brown Ward, who identified Terry as the man who shot Cecil Sivills, white Navy Yard employee on the Portsmouth Country Club golf course on the night of January 30 last, and then criminally assaulted her, sat among the officers and lawyers in the court room.

Hundreds of spectators and curiosity seekers unable to gain admittance milled about restlessly outside the courthouse during the brief hour of the trial.

PISTOL FOUND

Norfolk County investigators last weekend procured an old, rusty .45 calibre pistol that was expected to be introduced as evidence against Terry. The whereabouts of the gun from which the fatal bullet was fired has been a mystery that baffled police since Sivills was slain.

Officers went to Terry's home on the morning of February 1, and shot him down when he allegedly ran from the house. He spent several weeks in a local hospital.

It was after he was brought back to jail that Mrs. Ward "identified" him as the man who shot Sivills and attacked her. His picture had been carried in local newspapers before she made the identification.

The sensational "Negro-did-it" case has created widespread interest and there were hundreds of persons milling about the vicinity of the court house as the trial began. It is expected to last at least two days.

The jurors—H. F. Breeding, L. T. Nichols, Luther Harris, G. C. Ames, E. L. Henley, B. F. Liverman, W. B. Sentress, C. C. Robie, C. Picot, W. E. Steinmett, B. B. Floyd Jr., G. W. Taylor, F. Mosdyeae, Eason, Lellie L. Benny, Samuel Taylor, F. W. Culpepper, Thurman Forehand, H. B. Reaves, S. D. Duvall and Dempsey Cowand, from the original list, and George W. Quinn, W. H. Fleming, Lyman S. Clark, John Earlee White, W. N. Holcomb, Nathan J. Bray and Charles S. Smith.

Portsmouth Va Star
November 24, 1938

ANOTHER SCOTTSBORO CASE?

The decision of yesterday in the now famous Sivills murder case with verdict of life imprisonment to the negro Terry, on a murder charge, brings to conclusion the fourth trial of this case in local court, with one judge sitting in three trials and another in the final one, and with the latter judge reversing rulings of evidence by the judge who sat in previous hearings. But does this end the case, or will it develop into another Scottsboro affair, with still another court presided over by seven judges to become final arbiter on question of whether certain evidence was or was not admissible under the law? Indications today were that organizations interested in the case of the convicted man are now preparing to assist in appeal to the Supreme Court of Virginia. It would seem, then, that those interested may bring the Terry case to rank in Virginia with the famous Scottsboro trials in Alabama. Evidently the end is not yet.

Negro Sought After Deputy Is Killed

SCOTTSBURG, VA., Dec. 18. (AP)

—Deputy Sheriff Herbert Boelte, 35, of Halifax County, was shot and fatally wounded here late today by a negro who escaped into the woods, precipitating a widespread search by a posse of several hundred men.

Deputy John Hatcher, who accompanied Boelte, said the officers were about to execute a search warrant at the home of William Bradshaw, 55, who, Hatcher said, fired on Boelte as he mounted the steps. The officer died about 15 minutes later.

Officers from Danville, Lynchburg, Chatham, South Boston and Durham, N. C., volunteered their aid in the search. The posse was estimated at around 500.

Killings - 1938

Washington.

PROSECUTION PUSHED BY NAACP

Daily World
Convicted Officers
Facing Maximum
Sentences

20 YEARS EACH

SEATTLE, Wash. (ANP)—

Charged with beating a Negro prisoner to death three white Seattle policemen were found guilty of manslaughter Saturday night in Superior Judge Malcolm Douglas' court after 28 hours of deliberation. They face maximum sentences of 20 years each if the supreme court denies their appeal.

The policemen are Patrick L. Whalen, F. H. Paschel and W. F. Stevenson, all veterans of many years service. Their prisoner, Berry Lawson, 27, was arrested as a prowler in the Mount Fuji hotel on March 26 and died within a few days in the city jail. Police said it was from a fall down hotel steps and claimed he had been smoking "reefers," but other witnesses said Lawson was beaten and shoved to his death by arresting officers. The NAACP investigated and pushed the prosecution.

At the inquest James A. Franey, white, testified he saw Lawson plunge down a flight of stairs at the Fuji hotel. But in the trial, Franey admitted he had perjured himself and said he was not even near the hotel at the time but had been given \$250 by the police to say he was present.

Another witness, Travis Downs,

also white, testified that he had been bribed by police to leave the city before the inquest was held. However, he returned and was held in jail as a material witness.

Soon after his release from the county jail, Downs was arrested by city police on an old petit larceny charge. When the deputy prosecutor heard of this, he ordered Downs transferred from the city to the county jail and hit the detective division for waiting so long to arrest him. He promised to investigate the charge.